

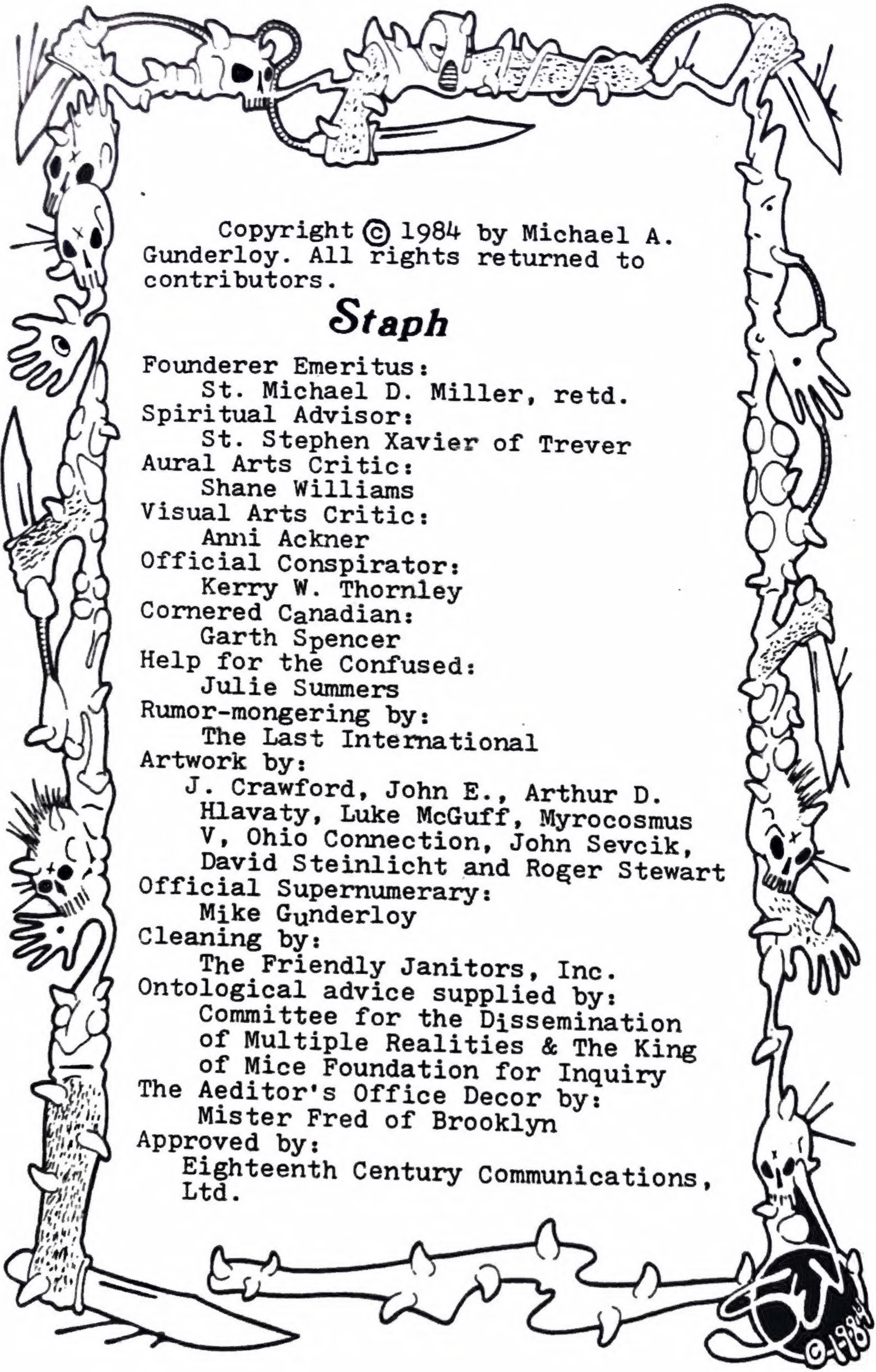
FACTSHEET FIVE

Mike Gunderloy
41 Lawrence St.
Medford, MA 02155

TO:

BULK RATE
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[#12]



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FACTSHEET FIVE is published four times a year, appearing in the bulk mails on or about the first of February, May, August and November. Deadlines are the twentieth of the preceeding months. All unsolicited manuscripts are welcome, with the exception of plays, poetry, fiction and TV and movie scripts, and book and fanzine reviews, which I reserve to myself. I am always in the market for short articles of potential interest to FF readers.

If you should want to talk to a columnist, just send them a letter care of me and I'll be happy to forward it.

FACTSHEET FIVE is always free to prisoners.

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available on a trade basis. I will also sell ads to the truly lunatic: \$5 for $\frac{1}{4}$ page, \$10 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page, and \$15 for a full page, you supply the camera-ready copy.

At the moment, I am particularly interested in seeing stuff from more artists, for even though I have several who have responded to the unveiled threats in past issues, I can always use more.

FACTSHEET FIVE

I'm typing this page last for a change, and all I can say is that it's a great relief to be here. This is the ridiculously large zine of crosscurrents and crosspollination, and it comes to you from Mike Gunderloy, who may be found at Superlative Manor, 41 Lawrence St., Medford, MA 02155. This is Pretzel Press publication #564, and is intended for direct mailing to all the Good People. I see I forgot to mention that my phone number is (617)-391-3496, which goes to show how frazzled I am. Press run: 350 copies. 12th issue. Floss your mind today.

Your mailing label is coded in an arcane fashion to indicate, at least to some slight extent, why you got this and how long you'll keep getting it. Herewith the key:

A number indicates the last issue on your subscription. So if there's a "12" after your name, send me more money if you want to keep getting this. If you got this and you don't know why and the number is 12, it probably means that someone gave me your name and told me you were a sucker.

"+" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, either because you're a staph member, because you won a contest, or because I just happen to like you.

"A" means that you're an artist and you'll get FF as long as you keep forking over publishable art in reasonable quantities.

"P" indicates that you are a Prisoner Of The State, which is left-wingese for "in the slammer", and that your subscription is therefore free. I do however request that you stay in touch to indicate to me that you're still reading the damn thing.

"T" indicates that I think we're trading zines, all-for-all. "T" followed by a number indicates that the trade expires with that issue, either because I'm not sure you want to trade or because I traded for some oneshot item.

There now, wasn't that simple?

The financial situation at FF hasn't gotten a lot better or a lot worse over the last quarter, so subscription prices are holding steady for the moment. (Thanks, by the way, to JC Brainbeau, who sent a few extra and appreciated dollars, and to Al Stella, who actually paid for an ad). That price is: \$1.50 per issue in cash or check or \$1.20 per issue in mint US postage stamps. You may subscribe for up to four issues at a time and thus be protected from price increases for a year. A single sample copy is \$1, but this price applies to your first copy only. I charge less for payment in stamps because it's more convenient for me than screwing around with miniscule checks. That price will be going up as soon as the postal rates rise.

In lieu of sending money, you may trade me your fanzine, draw some art, get thrown in the slammer or (with prior agreement) join the staph. You can also stay on the mailing list by sending me something to review that I haven't covered before, dangerous drugs, negotiable securities, or canned goods. The number of issues you get in return will be determined by the monetary and amusement value of the goods sent.

What will not work is sending too little money, begging, letters of comment (which are appreciated) and non-credible threats.

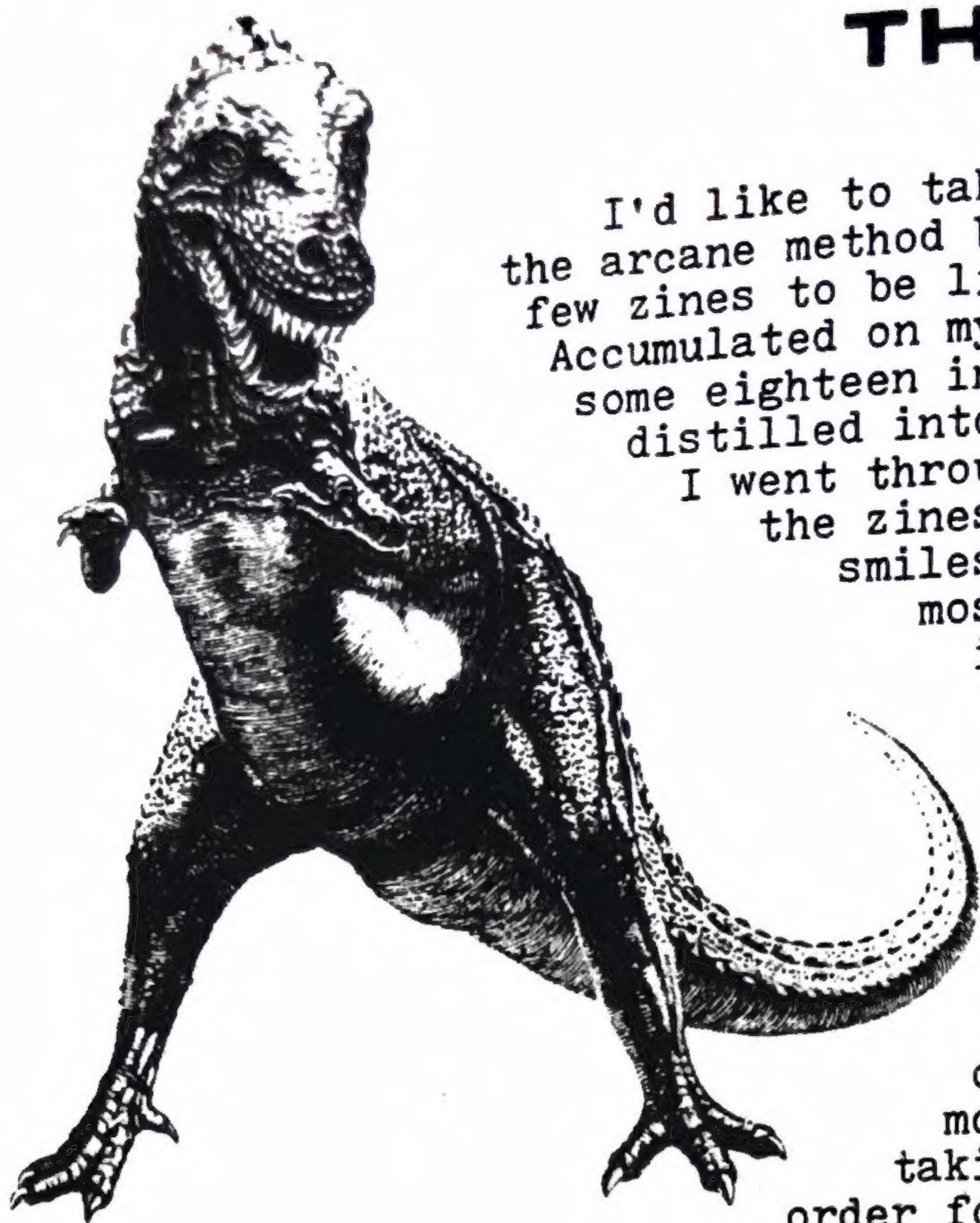
I humbly apologize for screwing up the pageorder of Bob Gillie's column in the last issue of FF. For an unrelated reason, that column has been discontinued. As Bob says: "Montana so far is pretty keen... no comic book stores here, and the newsstands only carry DC and Marvel. This may mean the end of my writing career..." So I guess I'm in the market for a new Funnybooks Critic, if anyone is interested. All I require is that you regularly enrage a substantial minority of my readership.

Why are you still here? The good stuff is thataway 

Will

THE BEST

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I'd like to take a moment here to explain the arcane method by which I choose the favored few zines to be listed in this section of FF. Accumulated on my desk is a stack of fanzines some eighteen inches high, which is to be distilled into this issue of FF. Last night, I went through the stack and took out the zines that brought the largest smiles to my face and the ones that most made me want to run out in the street and do something. Then I checked them against the Best section of the last FF: I don't want this part of the zine to be too repetitive. Then I cut the pile down to 15 zines. Here, then, are my idiosyncratic selections of the highlights of my mail for the past three months. As an experiment, I'm taking a shot at alphabetical order for zine listings. Is it worth the effort?

AGAINST THE WALL Vol. 12 #10 (\$2 from PO Box 444, Westfield, NJ 07091): ATW rejects the thesis that there is a single true path to freedom which defines some sort of "official" Libertarian stand. Instead, their version of Libertarianism is eclectic, grassroots, and sometimes even self-contradictory. In this issue, for example, there are arguments both from a Darwinist point of view and a classical liberal point of view. One imagines that if all of ATW's writers were to meet in a saloon, mayhem might well break out. Recommended to stretch your mind.

CAREFULLY SEDATED 3 (\$2 from Alan Rosenthal & Cathy Crockett, 117 Wanless Ave., Toronto, ONT M4N 1W1 CANADA): With its impeccable mimeo printing (well, just a tad light in places), lettercol, fanfic and listing of zines received, this is definitely a fanzine in the SF sense. (If the lingo makes no sense to you, you're probably not interested). But inside we find more than just lawnmower repairs and convention reports: the enigmatic Roldo darkly mutters and Robert Atwood is apparently in contact with the fandom of an alternate universe. The lettercol is surprisingly active for so young a zine.

CIRCLE A IN ATLANTA (Contribution from PO Box 57114, Atlanta, GA 30343): After an abortive attempt at organizing a larger paper, the staff of Circle A has produced another issue of their anarcho-communist news zine. Articles cover everything from punk concerts in Atlanta to a novel analysis of Grenada and the invasion, followed by a rebuttal from another staff member. No one gets stifled here! This issue has plenty of gore and gossip about the failed alternative paper (GREAT SPECKLED BIRD), but I hope that particular issue has now been disposed of and I think the zine can go on to bigger and better things.

FIFTH ESTATE, Summer 1984 (Sample 50¢ from 5928 Second Ave., Detroit, MI 48202): This is a major anarchist quarterly that concentrates on the modern world instead of the Spanish Revolution or Nestor Makhno. Topics covered in this issue include TV Programming, a debate on whether anarchy and Christianity are compatible, News on El Salvador and the Vancouver Five, reports on actions in this country, Native American hassles and a lot more. The price is a steal, since this is a 24-page tabloid -- you really should send them \$5 for a year's subscription.

FLIPSIDE 43 (\$1 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): A buck for 72 pages of typeset print with lots of photos? I don't understand how they do it. If you're only going to get one punk zine, make it FLIPSIDE. They cover live shows, recorded music, cassettes and fanzines. Each issue also contains interviews and a lively letter column. A major networking force.

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HERETIC'S JOURNAL, Vol. 4 #4 (\$1 from PO Box 12347, Seattle, WA 98111): Editor Ron Heresy is very concerned with social change: both the reasons we need it and the methods for accomplishing it. This issue has an article on the School of Living (a group pushing for decentralization), a bit called STARFIRE (which seems to be New Age stuff crossed with Teilhard de Chardin) and some notes on current repressive legislation. Though HJ occasionally falls off the deep end, its very willingness to do so means that it often covers things other zines shy away from.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, August 1984 (\$8/year from Society for Individual Liberty, PO Box 1147, Warminster, PA 18974): Actually I have two issues here, both dated August. One leads off with a blast at the IRS's new power to hit us with \$500 fines for "Frivolous returns" (don't write "signed under duress" after your name!), the other discusses the current publishing vacuum in the libertarian movement. IL is stepping forward to fill some of the gap left by the demise of UPDATE and INQUIRY. They do an excellent job of covering libertarian news from all factions, from partyarch to anarchist. SIL is the only libertarian group I belong to.

MIDNIGHT MARQUEE #32 (\$3.25 from Richard Svehla, 4000 Glenarm Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206): This is the first horror movie zine I've seen that actually impressed me. Rather than just discussing the latest crop of gore, MM has articles such as "The Cinematography of Karl Struss" and "The Heyday of Black Horror". Both the writing and production are extremely professional, with lots of photos, professionally-drawn titles and a clean, easy-to-read layout. I'm not "up" on this particular field, but MM looks like something that I'd have to have if I were.

THE MONTHLY INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE TIMES JOURNAL POST GAZETTE NEWS CHRONICLE BULLETIN #21 (SASE from 2510 Bancroft Way #207, Berkeley, CA 94704): Every once in a while (more frequently on the days when I have Physics classes) I need a laugh, and this zine (I'd have to be crazy to type the whole title again) is where I look. Small and unpretentious, TM...B probably contains more humor per square inch than anything else published in the US. Styles range from surreal to mainstream; ongoing features include an analysis of the smut in the strip "Marmaduke" and the adventures of the Bones, an engaging family of skeletons. Go ahead. Send that stamp.

NOMOS Vol. 2 #3 (\$3 from 9857 S. Damen, Chicago, IL 60643): "Studies in Spontaneous Order" is the subtitle of this new libertarian magazine. Spontaneous Order investigates the ways in which groups and societies organize themselves in the absence of pressure from above, and is related to the more complex doctrines of Natural Law. Nomos, despite this, makes its libertarianism accessible, with articles on current topics such as the problems draft counselors have getting on campus and the problems caused by rent control. They are also an excellent source of new contacts within a broad spectrum of anti-authoritarian groups.

PEACEWORK #133 (sample free from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): Most of this journal consists of analysis of current affairs, dwelling on things like Nicaragua and "reverse discrimination". The best part, though, is the two-page "Pieces" section at the back, which gives addresses and dates for workshops, demonstrations, and meetings, plus the status of current cases in the courts of interest to those working for "social justice". Considering the heavy use they make of governmental remedies to problems, I'm really surprised at how much worthwhile stuff I found in this magazine.

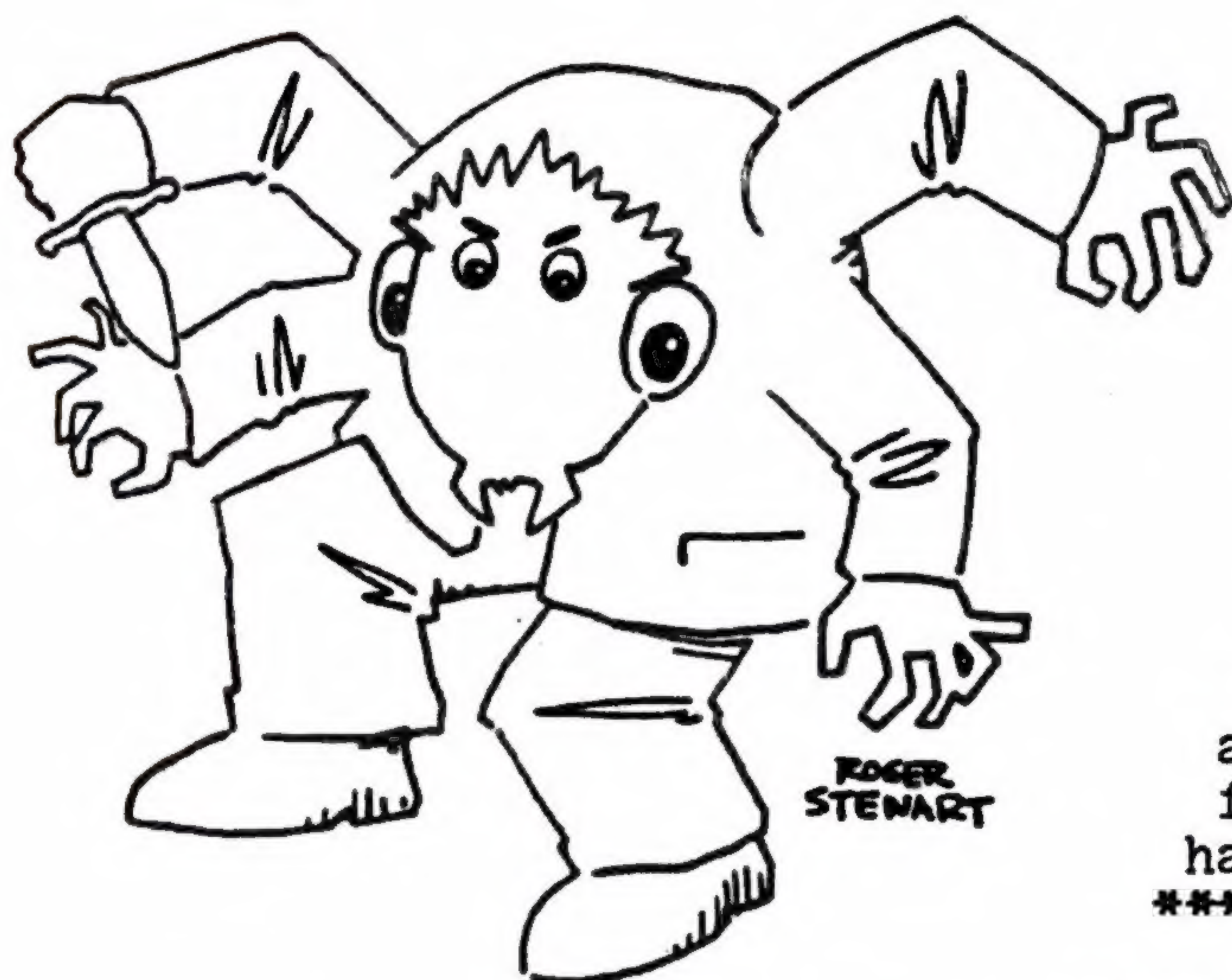
POINT-BLANK No. 8 (SASE from BDN, PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): This "Anarchist No-Wave Monthly" is both visually interesting and mentally engaging. Each issue presents a full-page anti-authoritarian poster backed with short articles on various facets of anarchy, with an emphasis on practical applications -- for example, suggestions on avoiding the draft or on sabotaging capitalism. They're not ignorant of the history of the movement, just firmly fixed in the present. Their single page of useful ideas outweighs whole tomes of boring history as far as I'm concerned.

SOUTH OF THE MOON #20 (\$1 from Mike Horvat, 112 East Burnett St., Stayton, OR 97383): This is a directory to apas. An apa is an amateur press association, basically a magazine produced by the readers and used for the exchange of ideas. This issue lists 72 apas, covering topics from comics to anarchy, Star Trek to Lovecraft. If you want an outlet for your writing bug that's cheaper than publishing a fanzine, this is the place to start hunting.

TRANET #33 (\$30/year (\$15 for us poor folks) from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): Probably the easiest thing for me to say about this one is that I believe in it enough to subscribe. TRANET is the Transnational Network for Appropriate/Alternative Technologies, which is a fancy way to say that they're into trying to apply the First World's resources to everyone's problems on an individual and personal basis. Each issue contains news items from all over (for example, the development of new breeds of sheep for Africa) plus a pullout "A.T. Directory" listing many contacts in a particular area (in this issue, the pullout is on "Native People and Human Rights"). A good place to start working on nongovernmental solutions to the earth's problems.

VILE PROPAGANDA #3 (20¢ or SASE from Gatsby, 181 Union St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601): It took me five minutes to find the title and price in this 11 x 17 inch assault on the senses. One big sheet of collage, this is nominally a punk rock zine but it also contains a bit of fiction, some snippets of info on repressed animals, a free cheesecake contest, dancing Mouseketeers, British fanzine addresses and Situationist propaganda. Not a zine with thousands of record reviews and millions of fanzine listings, just a nifty way to wile away some spare time.

AND THE REST



ABORTED IMAGES #7 (\$2 from Joanna Rogers, 640 Reid St., Peterborough, ONT K9H 4H4 CANADA): There is a new (to me, at least) phenomena that I'm going to label "collage-zine" until I come up with a better term. For unknown reasons, the editors of these zines (and this is one of them) solicit collages from their readers and then xerox a batch of them for each issue. This AI is 22 pages long and contains, among other things, fish, typesetting, surrealism, eyes, hands and shoes. Lots of fun.

AGENDA, Vol. IV #4 (\$15/year from Animal Rights Network, Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881): The topic of Animal Rights has become very big in the past few years, spawning a number of groups and publications. AGENDA gives an excellent overview of the movement, talking forthrightly about both the successful actions and the petty bickering between groups. Their stand is hardcore: the lead article in this issue lauds the activities of the Animal Liberation Front, which "liberates" lab animals. I think they go more than a bit overboard at times, but just having any principles at all puts them ahead of many people.

ALTERNATE ENERGY TRANSPORTATION, Sept. 1984: (Sample \$2 from 327 Central Park West, New York, NY 10025): This is a specialized and serious zine, dealing with "Technology in Motion": vehicles powered by electricity, natural gas, hydrogen and other nouveau energy sources. The field is still small enough that they can report on such things as corporate purchases of electric vehicles (EVs), but it will have to boom someday if we are to stop choking on the exhaust of our cars. Includes dates of many workshops, conferences and exhibitions in the field.

AMERICAN FLAGG! #15 (\$1.25 from First Comics, 1014 Davis St., Evanston IL 60201): This is the only comic book I read, which no doubt says something awful about my taste to knowledgeable comics fans. Still, I like the futuristic politically-oriented story line and the dense and deranged art of Howard Chaykin (who, by coming back from vacation, managed to get me to renew my subscription in the nick of time). Many people think it's sexist and peurile, and it is, but where else can you find a talking cat, Gotterdammercrats, and a pair of robot bodyguards named Bert and Ernie?

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AMERICAN FORUM, Sept. 1984 (\$13.95/year from Box 261, Dept. E, Staten Island, NY 10302): "A newsletter for the opinionated", this one wanders in some strange directions. It consists of roughly equal parts of reader submissions and clippings from national publications, running the gamut from Dave Bergland's LP presidential stands to true (?) vampire stories to pedophilia. Subscribers also receive AMERICAN FORUM WEEKLY, which has much the same format.

ASP #6 (37¢ from 1237 1/2 N. Fairfax, Los Angeles, CA 90046): This is, I guess, another mail-art network. About 40 pages of photo-reduced xerox, some hand-colored. Contains collages, sheet music, cartoons, poetry, short stories, an advertisement, and miscellaneous -- or maybe it's all miscellaneous. I liked Gary Gray's poem "LUNCHTIME 1984", but then, I have a strange mind. I don't know if they're looking for more contributors or not.

Denise writes: "Got the last F.F. on a hideous day after suing ex-employer in small claims court I came home to the latest FF in the mail and your review really helped me remember perspective who needs money?" Well, I need some to keep putting this out, but you're right, the daily fix of mail I get is a really important crutch to help me get through my crummy days too. I'm glad FF is helping other people go and do likewise.

BABOON DOOLEY (SASE from J. Crawford, 773 E. 21st St., Brooklyn, NY 11210): If you're not getting enough Baboon strips in the fanzines you receive, you can get 'em straight from the source. Three comics come out every couple of weeks, along with some writing from John -- currently a serialization of his award-winning feud with Tim Yohannon.

BANG! #4 (\$1.25 from Rocco Cipollone, 77 Newbern Ave., Medford, MA 02155): This is a rock music fanzine (as opposed to a punkzine) which concentrates on Boston-area bands. The meat of the zine is interviews with local bands and musicians (Violent Femmes, Salem 66, Johnny Angel), but there are also the usual record and live show reviews. This issue also features a report on the WBCN 1984 Rumble (a sort of competition among unknown groups) and a gossip column.

THE BIG TAKEOVER "Late August 1984" (40¢ from Jack Rabid, 249 Eldridge St., Box 14, New York, NY 10002): The emphasis here is on information rather than slickness: 142 record reviews and about 50 live show reviews in 10 pages of tiny print (only a trifle smaller than what you're reading here). Also news on the LA and New York scenes and properly opinionated editorials ("Rock and roll had its chance and blew it"). No pabulum here.

BLEEDING VIRGIN #1 (\$2 from Elixir Enterprises, PO Box 119, Rockfall CT 06481): A new literary magazine, this one starts out in an ambitious way with 48 pages of comics, fiction and poetry. Some of it is pretty good, but much of the fiction reminds me of high school creative writing exercises: 200 words describing a scene, or 500 on a feeling, that sort of thing. But the non-linear comic strip by Oisif Equax and Leilah Wendall's story "Damien's Fugue" salvage the rest.

BLITZ #50 (\$1.50 from PO Box 48124, Los Angeles, CA 90048-0124): "The Rock and Roll Magazine For Thinking People", this one covers everything from the roots of rock to the newest groups. The Go-Gos, Dwight Twilley and the Textones share these pages with the Violent Femmes and Pinhead. Each issue also showcases at least one long-time artist, in this issue Frankie Ford, including a complete discography. Listeners and Collectors can both find things to engage them in Blitz.

THE BOB #19 (\$1 from PO Box 897, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023): A tabloid with an aggressive black-and-white layout, this music paper covers mostly established groups: R.E.M., Gary Glitter and Icicle Works are all in this issue. Lesser-knowns include Killing Joke and Angela Bowie, but you're not going to find any garage bands here. Heavy on interviews, there are also record reviews and a bit of straight news

BOBIER ELECTRONICS (PO Box 1545, Parkersburg, WV 26101): This place has a new plan out whereby they're selling the equipment needed for solar power on an installment plan with no interest payments. I don't know how they do it, but you might check them out if you're thinking of going to PV power.

LIKE RUSSIA THE U.S. SHOULD BE OUTLAWED AND
 BOMBARDED IN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES FOR
 PROMOTING WINNERLESS WARS
 (no chance-selected winners)
 INFLATIONARY FIXED WAGES, BLUE-COLLAR
 WORK NIXING AND SECULAR LIVING.
 All countries are equally guilty but our suicidal
 platforms can only lead to world suicide.
 To scrap wrong concepts and adopt new ones is a
 1984 MUST — 1985 may be too late. Send SASE to:
 4 WRONGS RIGHTED
 Box 2243 — YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, 44504

WHAT MAKES CRITICISM
Of my solutions go in one ear
and out the other is the know-
ledge that I'm probably the sole
possessor of a mind-changing
W.W.II. jeep accident head
injury incident that involved
eradicating previously held
beliefs and substituting others
via a round-the-clock
me-to-me talkathon.
Forty one years later I'm still
talking to myself.
Send SASE to the ISM to replace
ISMS, BRAINBEAUISM
Box 2243
YOUNGSTOWN — OHIO, 44504

Does anyone understand this stuff? Brainbeau is also involved with THE DAILY MAIL ORDER ADVERTISER, which claims to put 5000 copies of your ad out each week: 1961 Thornapple Ave., Akron OH 44301 for details, I guess.

BREAKFAST WITHOUT MEAT #6 (60¢ & a stamp from 639D Steiner, San Francisco, CA 94117): A punkzine that has (this issue) damned little to do with music since the editor decided, for reasons unknown, to review about 300 movies instead. Reminds me a lot of my own book reviews. Also features rude, crude and socially unacceptable drawings and suggestions for summer fun.

BVI NEWSLETTER Vol. 2 #1 (55¢ from Box 2413, Littleton, CO 80161): BVI is Benson Video International, though what this has to do with video I don't know. Reminds me a bit of the phony newspaper I used to put out when I was in 5th grade, only this isn't as funny. Handwritten "news" stories such as "Man Sucks Bering Strait Into His Nose". Enough said.

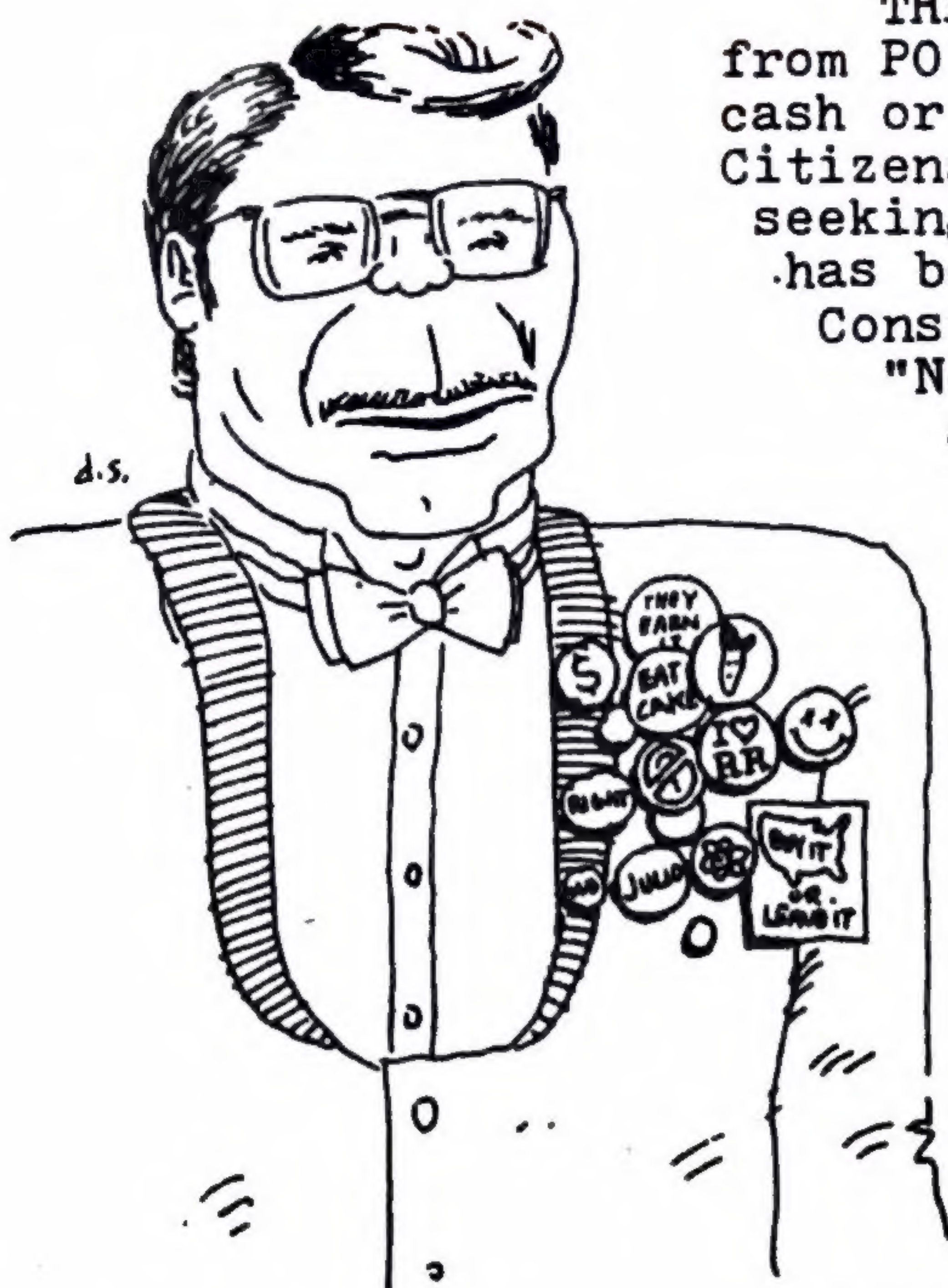
Gatsby says: "I really want to say thanks! (so, thanks!) for reviewing my zine in FF. I have gotten a bunch of cool mail as a result of it. In fact, it seems that the neatest mail in general has come from people who found out about VP through FF." And that leads me to say thanks to all of you readers. I get the impression that I've managed to get a bunch of you who actually use this magazine as a resource instead of just reading it, and I'm glad that's the way it is. Keep it up, and I'll keep on publishing.

THE CALLIGRAPHIC BUTTON CATALOGUE STRIKES AGAIN! (SASE from Nancy Lebovitz, 400 Wollaston Ave., Apt. C6, Newark, DE 19711): Nancy's business is selling hand-calligraphed buttons at reasonable prices (\$1.50 each and down). She has something over 300 different slogans available, ranging from "Have an Illuminated Day" to "Sex is only dirty if it's done right" to "I think, therefore I am, I think". Ideal for confusing your friends and enemies alike.

CHANGE #187 (\$10/year from the Synergetic Society, c/o Don Pyles, 1021 Clearwater Rd., Daytona Beach, FL 32014): The Synergetic Society seeks "the abolition of war and other social ills, and the emergence of a new Age of Synergy for humankind." Synergetics is a jargon-laden system of thought that seems to try and explain human interaction in terms of a small number of variables. Not very accessible unless you've read their book, which I haven't. But I'm usually suspicious of a mindset that thinks giving new names to something is explaining them.

CHEMICAL-OF-THE-MONTH BULLETIN, April 1984: (20¢ stamp from 420 W. Elm St., Kent, OH 44240): "Devoted to advancing the appreciation of chemicals, chemical products and by-products, and other hi-tech things." This issue is devoted to Fertilizers, and includes a little plastic packet full of (of course) fertilizer. I don't know why they do it, but CMB is a welcome balance to all the save-the-earth publications around.

CHEAP TRUTH (SASE from 809-C West 12th St., Austin, TX 78701): NOT a fanzine, this is a two-pager published by someone who reads SF but thinks for himself. It's editor, Vincent Mmniaveritas, dares insult anyone and anything he doesn't like; this issue features reviews of both SF and science fact magazines, and is lavish in its nastiness. A breath of fresh air.



THE CITIZEN'S CLAW, September 1984 (\$1 from PO Box 441, Morongo Valley, CA 92256: cash or MO only): This is the newsletter of Citizens for Constitutional Law, a group seeking to eliminate all the nonsense that has been legislated on top of the US Constitution. One of their projects is "New Nation USA", which they claim is a legal government in opposition to the illegal one in Washington. They've published forms for doing such things as declaring war against the government and are into do-it-yourself lawyering.

THE CLOSET PENGUINS (50¢ from Denise Dee, 333 Tenth St., San Francisco, CA 94103): This is the successor to LOBSTER TENDENCIES, and is a small zine consisting of strange stories and scribbled pictures. The writing is not linear, and form rather than plot seems to be the important thing -- sort of has a dreamlike quality.

COMMON SENSE August/September 1984 (\$8/year from LPDC, PO Box 650051, Miami, FL 33165): This is the newsletter of the Dade County Libertarian Party. The big thing in this issue is the failure of the Bergland for President campaign to get on the ballot in Florida; the state and national organizations are busy slinging 50-pound bags of shit at each other in an attempt to make something stick. They also publish some rather wishy-washy articles on big government and foreign policy.

CRYSTAL STAR (\$3 from Deinotation-7 Press, Box 194, Susquehanna, PA 18847): This is a rather short play by struggling (I don't know if he's young or not) playwright Albert A.M. Stella. It takes place on two levels: in a house in modern-day East Germany and in a remembered forest in Nazi Germany, with some of the same characters in both levels. The foggy and dreamy quality of memory, 40 years later, is well captured. The plot concerns an ex-Nazi now fleeing from the Volkspolizei and an aging rabbi, who have met in the past and have unfinished business in the present. A musical tragedy, this is experimental drama that manages to put across some sort of message without being heavy-handed.

DAGNY'S NEWS Vol. 1 #2 (SASE from PO Box 224, Long Beach, CA 90801): This is a new and small libertarian publication working from a basically profitarian perspective: the big question is how to spread the libertarian message when there really aren't a lot of people who want to kick in more money. They're exploring ideas like a by-mail lending library and a series of conventions as low-cost alternatives to cable TV and national magazines. By the time you get this, their first "Galt's Gulch Reunion" should be history.

DAILY WORLD 9/20/84 (\$12/year from 239 W. 23rd St., New York, NY 10011): That's real cheap for a daily -- I wonder where their money comes from? The house organ of the Communist Party, USA, is still trying to convince workers that their salvation lies with Gus Hall and Angela Davis instead of Walter Mondale and Gerry Ferraro. Somehow I don't think they're having much luck with this line. Karl Marx, if he were alive today, wouldn't be able to comprehend the American worker, and these folks can't either. Not subversive, just sort of pathetic.

A DISCORDIAN DIRECTORY #7 (Sample 25¢ & SASE from PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061): Somewhat reminiscent of early issues of FACTSHEET (which very few people saw), this is a networking guide to Discordians and like groups -- folks who believe that religion is a joke and have a joke for their religion. Also contains Discordian parables and random dogma. These folks are getting ready to produce a new edition of PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA -- you might want to contact them about that. Advance orders are \$5, postpaid.

THE DILLINGER RELIC #36 (\$1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, 819 W. Markham Ave., Durham, NC 27701): The pseudo-diaryzine of infamous Illuminatus Nut Cult personage Arthur D. Hlavaty, this one cloaks deep dark secrets on the nature of the world, drugs and football under a cover of ordinary day-to-day goings on. Of course, Arthur lives mainly in the world of ideas rather than that of things, so the day-to-day goings on are likely to appear as literary criticism and mental speculation to the uninformed.

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #7 (\$3/6 issues from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): This is sort of an apa, run by people who don't know what an apa is. It's devoted to the discussion of what they call "third force" revolutionaries: not capitalist or communist, but somewhere in between. The major topic of discussion is DeLeonism or Social Industrial Unionism, which I don't really understand, but it seems to be a plot for the workers to take over the country and run things right.

Chuck says: "Although I am dubious of punk as a 'movement', if you will, if there is to be any social impact, I can see no better way to accelerate that process than by circulating addresses and information. If punk is to be effective in Sept. 1984 and so on, it must become unified: there must be a common ground where people can agree on a few certain goals. Otherwise, punk will dissolve into millions of little obsolete co-opted subsections." I dunno about that. I see interrelations between punk and all the rest of the stuff I cover in FACTSHEET, and any two groups may have common ground, but about the only common ground that all the movements have is that we all publish. Maybe just caring enough to write is common ground enough to make things happen. I'd certainly rather have a free-form bunch of little groups than one monolithic oppressor, too.

DOCTOR JAZZ PRESS NEWSPOEMS #1-6 (SASE, I guess, from AJ Wright, 2208 Chapel Hill Rd., Birmingham, AL 35216): Semi-random poetry, these are xeroxes of poems made by combining words clipped from the headlines of newspapers. I don't think it works, but there are a lot of folks doing this sort of thing these days.

DREAM SEQUENCE (50¢ from Steven F. Scharff, Box 5004, Hillside Township, NJ 07205-5004): This is a short black-and-white comic book based on a dream of the author's. The characters are all sort of biped animals, which combines with the mysticism to give the whole things a sort of ancient Egyptian flavor, at least to me. No great Truths, but maybe the sort of little truth you can find on a good trip of any sort.

DREAMSHORE #16 (50¢ from 618 S. Mitchell, Bloomington, IN 47401): A nice, quiet little periodical. These folks aren't out to change the world, but to just have fun. Their interests include fantasy, the Space Shuttle, music from the sixties, dragons, world peace, natural foods and other things you might expect from a batch of hippies-come-lately. Content rund from film reviews to short stories to instructions for magic, and each monthly issue is a new surprise.

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY, "July" 1984 (75¢ from Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): Typeset and professionally laid-out, this deals solely with the mystery/suspense genres. The bulk of each issue is book reviews, leading off with one or two major features covering either a lot of books from one author or some books with a common theme. The annual survey issue gives a good idea of what's new on the shelves, and the reviews are all well-written.

THE DUPLEX PLANET 58 (\$1 from David Greenberger, PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): This is the fabled zine from the nursing home that you've all heard rumors about. The editor goes in with a tape recorder and questions and comes out with wisdom and non sequitirs. My favorite quote of the issue is "I don't know art when I see it."

EAT IT UP #40 (50¢ from 1649 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94703): This is not a mail art network, but it seems to be aimed at people who are interested in mail art. I don't really understand the whole mail art phenomenon anyhow -- write these guys if you want to know more. Listings of upcoming exhibitions, collages, editorials, and a promise that the format of the magazine is going to be undergoing changes in future months.

Stormy writes: "I've been here doing solar energy and agricultural research: laying in the sun nude trying to determine if it's possible to live on wine & guacamole. The answer is yes, but I have several wines yet to sample....A Discordian Directory is a contradiction in terms, but since you say you lost yours, perhaps the concept has merit."

EDITIONS Catalog #693 (\$1 from Boiceville, NY 12412): Most eclectic used-book catalog I've been able to find. Worth reading just to speculate on who would pay \$35.50 for A MANUAL OF GESTURE: EMBRACING A COMPLETE SYSTEM OF NOTATION, TOGETHER WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION. Prices start at \$2.60 and run to about \$350.00.

EER MEET (\$1 from Trent Radio, Trent University, Peterborough, ONT K9J 7B8 CANADA): Small fanzine consisting entirely of cassette reviews, mainly of experimental music, with a few punk groups thrown in ("This is music to listen to while sawing your mother in half.") The folks who do this are also trying to put together an international compilation cassette featuring work by "artists/musicians/noisey people".

ELITIST ENNUI #23 (SASE from Alex McKale, 812 Clark St #2B, Evanston, IL 60201): This is Alex's journal of his life and times, and there's something here to interest everyone. Current topics include new rules for Monopoly, Michael Jackson concerts, Boy Scouts, gay rights, new ways to make money, etymology and the physics of the Olympics. Alex has a relaxed style that makes most any subject interesting, and the individual bits are just the right length to be read in the bathroom.

EMISSARY PUBLICATIONS CATALOG (25¢ from Box 642, South Pasadena, CA 91030): These folks think the Illuminati and Satanists are taking over, and offer to sell us books explaining everything. In addition to the usual books accusing the international bankers and the Democrats of this and that, they also have a cassette tape series, including ones warning against the dangers of D&D and the movie E.T. Great humor value for a quarter.

EPIA SOCIETY DIGEST, June-July 1984 (\$2 from PO Box 5611, San Bernardino, CA 92412): "Dedicated to the American Constitution", this is put out by another bunch of patriots trying to restore some semblance of sanity to the country. Their strategy seems to be mainly based on trying to exploit the loopholes and contradictions in the structure of Federal Law to invalidate those parts of it they don't like. They've also got all sorts of cassette tapes and forms designed to make you into a competent and troublemaking amateur lawyer. Good source for news on the battles against the IRS.

ESTES MODEL ROCKET NEWS MAGAZINE, Fall 1984 (\$1 from Estes Industries, Penrose, CO 81240): Help your kid put his eyes out by getting him this nifty magazine full of ads for cut-price rocket kits. Also includes tech ideas and cartoons from readers, as well as instructions for customizing the stock kits, an article on center of gravity, and a crossword puzzle.

FABBRO, Spring 1984 (\$2 from Dept of English, 1215 Patterson Office Tower, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506): A literary magazine representing mostly the works of students and professors at the U of K. Poems, a bit of artwork, and two short stories. The poetry leaves me only lukewarm; the stories seem to be polished without being exciting; the art is nice stuff. Maybe mainstream literature just isn't my bag, or maybe this really is pretentious.

FALSE POSITIVE #1 (\$2 from 55 Sutter St #487, San Francisco, CA 94104; checks to Donna Kossy): This is the "Technology" issue of a new magazine of clippings, collages and satire. Illustrated reports on such things as "Keeping Germs Healthy", "Survival of the Fittest", and "Advice to the Modern Man". Pro-technology attitude is topped off by a stunning color xerox cover. A warning: these people are in league with the sinister Last International.

FOOD FOR BIRDS; PEOPLE FOR PROFIT #3 (Available for written contribution only from Mid-Coast Subchurch of Paranoia, RFD 279, Rockland, ME 04841): This is a "cooperative information network" vaguely centered around the politics of running a food co-op in New England, though SubGenius rants seem to be creeping in around the corners. What this could grow into if the editor continues printing everything he receives is anyone's guess.

FREE THE FIVE NEWSLETTER #9 (donation from PO Box 48296, Benatl1 Sta , Vancouver, BC V7X 1A1 CANADA): If anyone is still in the dark, the Vancouver Five are a group of anarchists who the Canadian government accused of bombing a Litton plant, a power station, and some video stores. Well, it turns out they're all guilty and they admit it. They're still looking for money to finance their appeals and such, but now they're basing their plea on the nastiness of the state instead of their own innocence. The Canadian government did act with little regard for civil liberties, but on the other hand I wouldn't want my video store bombed.

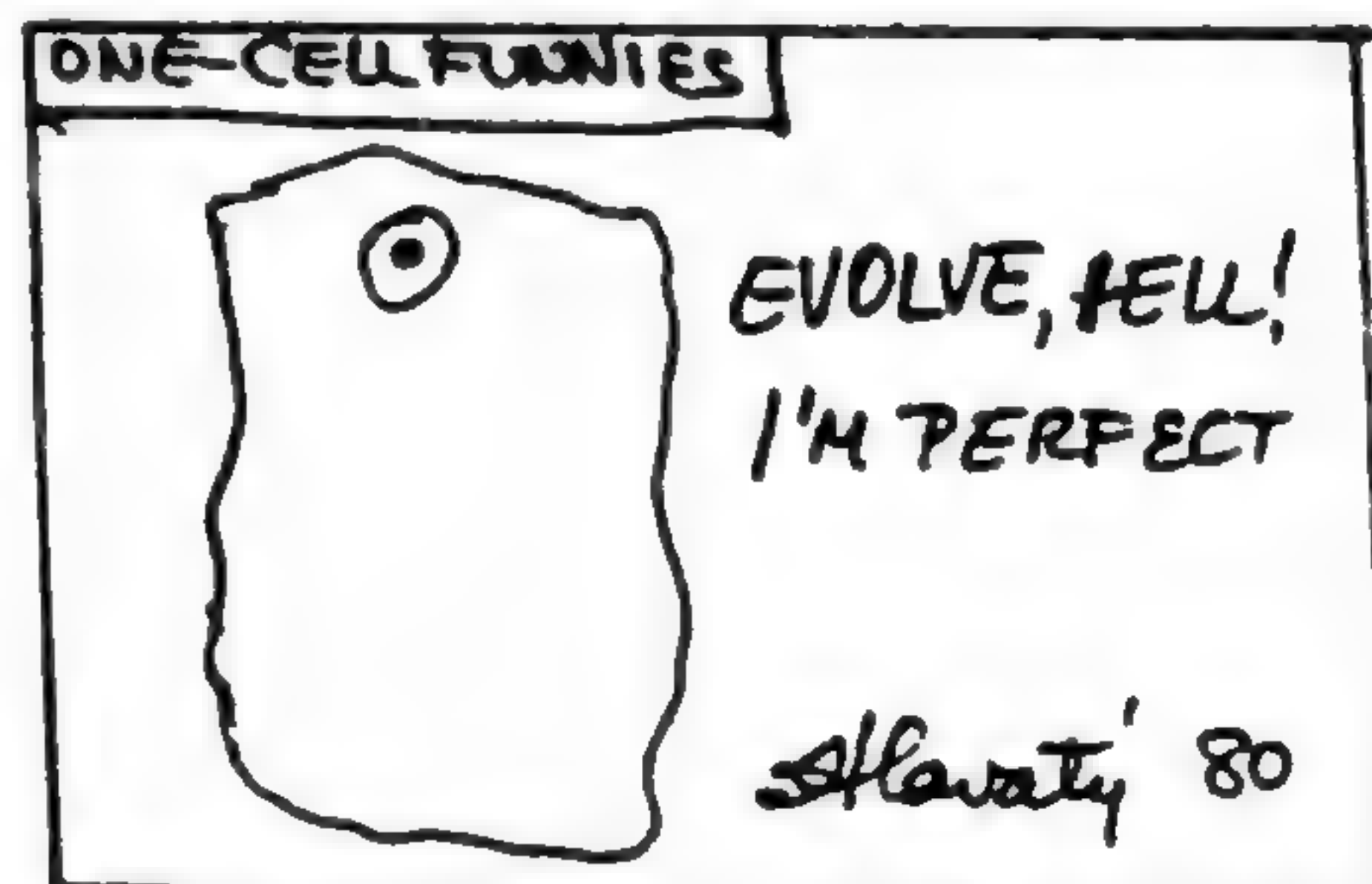
FREE-MARKET YELLOW PAGES, 1984 Edition (\$2.50 from PO Box 4, Fullerton, CA 92632): From Advertising to Writers' Bureau, these yellow pages list only people who call themselves libertarians. Of course no effort is made to check out their credentials, so it's still Caveat Emptor, but you might be able to get hold of help from kindred souls through this publication (assuming you're a libertarian yourself, of course).

FRIENDLY ALIEN Vol. 1 #1 (\$1 from PO Box 272, Hibbing, MN 55746): A newsprint tabloid, this is apparently another attempt to reach SF fans and particularly fringe fans. Lots of fan fiction and movie reviews, report on a Star Trek convention, discussion of the plot flaws in V, but blessed little of the type of thing one usually finds in an SF zine. For some that may be a blessing in itself.

THE GENTLE ANARCHIST Vol. 1 #5 (Donation from PO Box 1313, Lawrence, KS 66044): A small anarchist journal from someone who feels that it is possible to change society without violence. The emphasis is on speaking, writing and living so as to demonstrate to others that anarchy is a practical thing. Lots of quotes from thinkers past and present plus a bit of original stuff.

From Tomega come these words: "Congratulations; you managed to mention every alternative publication in North America but ours. Actually, you've compiled such an immense compendium of mags that I don't even mind being left out. It's both heartening and intriguing to know the level of craziness is out there in Reagan's America." But you see, I'm quite sure that I still don't list all of the pubs available. No one could do so. If I don't list some zine that you know of, please tell me, or better yet, send me a copy. By now you all realize that I'm interested in everything. Remember, you get a free issue of FF for every new pub that you turn me on to.

GUNDERLOY PUBLISHING EMPIRE:
I'm going to group these together to try and cut down on the confusion that's been evident in my mail.



FACTSHEET FIVE #12 is what you're reading now, O.K.?

FREFANZINE #48 is an anarchist and libertarian science fiction apa of which I am the Head Mutant, which loosely translates as "coordinator". Sample copies are available for \$1. If you send me money, be patient, as copies are scarce and it only comes out once every two months. Fref (as we familiarly refer to it) is a relaxed place to discuss anarchy and other things in an atmosphere not bristling with the usual statist preconceptions on the subject.

MADNESS! #5 is a sort of mail-art network, consisting of contributions from half a dozen or so people all xeroxed by me. Copies are \$1.50 and I'm looking for more contributors -- contact me first, though. MADNESS! is sort of an experiment, and I'm not sure it's working, but some very strange things have appeared in its pages, including odd bits of my own soul.

SRAF BULLETIN used to use my address as a mail drop, but now it's moved, so see below for more information and don't bother me about it.

HARVEST, Vol. 4 #8: (\$10/year from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): This is a neopagan zine not tied to any one particular tradition but rather encouraging contributions from all who have something to say about the energy in the universe. Excellent for ritual, craft and meditation ideas and for contacts within the neopagan community.

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THE HARVEST, Vol. 2 #12 (Free from 3933 W. Irving Park, Chicago, IL 60618): Not to be confused with the above, this newsprint tabloid is put out by a bunch of eager-beaver born-again Christians. It's full of talk of sowing the seeds of salvation and helping the unbelievers see the truth of Christ's message. The moral here, don't judge a fanzine by its title.

Folks, I don't review zines that don't have an address and ordering information. If you're going to send me a zine without this stuff, be sure to write it down, or your efforts will go for nought. The point of this publication is to tell people how to get in touch with wackos, not to list the wackos that I'm in touch with.

HIMALAYAN NEWS Sept./Oct. 1984 (Free from Himalayan Institute, RD 1, Box 88, Honesdale, PA 18431): The Himalayan Institute is Sri Swami Rama's (I know, it sounds like a bad rock group) ashram in the U.S. and this is their free outreach newspaper. In amongst the offers to sell you books, tapes, neti pots and expensive coursework, there is some interesting stuff in the form of parables, hatha yoga exercises, vegetarian recipes, and philosophical discourses. Eastern religion packaged for Yuppies.

HITHERYON HOUSE (Pricelist free from PO Box 452, Syracuse, NY 13201): This is actually the self-publishing endeavor of Dave Reissig, who has 8 little booklets out at prices from \$1 to \$3. They range from rather airy metaphysical speculations (my least favorite) to collections of pithy sayings such as "It's a heavy responsibility when everything you say has cosmic significance" or "My secret ambition has always been to be a big international manure trader." If you like these, just send him a buck and ask for FROM THE SUPERSCRIPTURES along with your pricelist.

HOMESTEADERS NEWS #43 (\$2 from Sherrie & Norm Lee, Naples, NY 14512): This one is up to an incredible 76 pages of information including, in this issue, a complete reprinting of THE HUNDREDTH MONKEY. If you haven't read this work by Ken Keyes on preventing nuclear war, you should go away right now and send for a copy of HN. There's lots more here too: letters from folks who are homesteading, herb lore, gardening techniques, home education, vonu, greenhouses, sprouting and lots more. THE best source of information and contacts for the homesteader, whether current or just dreaming of it.

HOW TO COMMIT SUICIDE IN SOUTH AFRICA (\$6 from Raw books, 27 Greene St., New York, NY 10013): Stark white-on-black graphics and starker statistics combine with newspaper stories to tell the story of the South African government's abuse of its citizens who happen to be black. Don't read this just before dinner.

IGNOMINY #1 (20¢ stamp from PO Box 4716, Las Vegas, NV 89127): Another state is added to my list of contacts with this little punkand politics xerox zine. Actually more politics than music and even a little bit of philosophy (200 words or less on Wittgenstein). Inspiring rhetoric directed against Bonzo, but I wonder if it will make any difference? Personally, I'd rather just wash my hands of the whole system, so if Ronnie wins by one vote, you can blame me. Anyways, this zine shows some potential, but it's got a ways to go yet.

INSIDE JOKE #33 (\$1 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Sta., New York, NY 10159): The "newsletter of comedy and creativity" has survived the staff shakeups and come back swinging. Kermit the Marine and Mildred Neptune head the revised cast of characters, sharing pagespace with Anni Ackner's wonderful meandering column and Candi Strecker's video reviews, together with record reviews, Discordianism, random fiction, TV and a letter column occasionally reminiscent of a limited nuclear war. It still has a bit of a quality control problem, but there's something in every issue to make you laugh.

INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE Summer 1984 (\$6.50/5 from PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): Put out by the Lysander Spooner Society, this one takes Spooner's jaundiced and cynical view and applies it to modern society. Features articles on current problems like the War Against Drugs and lots of prison-outreach stuff, together with discussion of anarchy and feminism.

JAG Vol 22 #9 (Free from R.S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles St., Oelwein, IA 50662): This is one man's crusade for a better world, describing itself as "An educational report, dedicated to the preservation of individual responsibility and implementation of a Free Enterprise system." Despite IRS harassment, Jaggard has continued to speak out against the tyranny of collectivism and government usurpation of private functions. Middle-class radicalism.

JET LAG #45 (\$1 from 8419 Halls Ferry, Penthouse Suite, St. Louis, MO 63147): This zine covers rock music, concentrating on live shows in the St. Louis area. They cover everything from Wierd Al Yankovitch to progressive jazz to punk to plain old rock in their live reports and record reviews. This is something of an oddity, a music zine that is really about music, rather than politics. They're also looking for reviews of new records, 5-600 words, so contact them if you think you can write.

JONATHON SWIFT COMMEMORATIVE NEWSLETTER #5 (\$1 from 19 Willow Rd., Lawrence, NJ 08648): An attempt to carry on meaningful social satire in the tradition of Swift, this one recommends merging the house and Senate, elimination of telephones, legalization of drugs and criminalization of alcohol, and various other social measures.

JOURNEY INTO SAVAGERY #1 (\$1 from Chuck Morse, 145 Fox Run, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603): Some of you may remember my surprise at finding a single fanzine in Poughkeepsie. Well, now I know of two. JIS consists mainly of xerox-art diatribes against consumerism, war, advertising, work and other capitalist plots. Also contains speculations on attaining happiness in the modern world and a diatribe against education as practiced by America's colleges.

JOHN BROWN'S STUDENT BODY (\$2 from Kansas College of Collage, PO Box 8187, SM, KS 66208): This is a visually-stunning collage tour of the college's main campus. Pictures of the Bait Shop Quadrangle, the Dreamdome, Slug Alley and other scenic spots. Technohorror in its most condensed form.

LIBERTARIAN LOGOS Vol. 2 #12 (Contribution from PO Box 25172, Phoenix, AZ 85033): This is a libertarian zine concerned with people rather than profits, concentrating on human rights in America's prisons. Though other zines do treat of this problem occasionally, none subjects it to the relentless assault and controlled fury of LOGOS. Other topics such as free enterprise and the use of force do make up an important part of the zine, but the majority is by or about prisoners. Cost is at your discretion, but I think you should send at least \$1 for a sample.

LIBERTAS UPDATE (\$10/year from 2727 S. Croddy Way #J, Santa Ana, CA 92704): This is a monthly calendar of "eclectic libertarian, speculative fiction and new age events" headquartered in California but also including publication info and a few out-of-state functions. Teeny-tiny print and a lot of listings, probably only worth it if you're in the Southland, but stay tuned for further expansion.

LIBERTY AMENDMENT COMMITTEE NEWS (SASE from PO Box 286, Los Alamitos, CA 90720): The Liberty Amendment would get the US government out of business enterprises not specifically mentioned in the Constitution and abolish the IRS. It sounds too good to be true but nine states (WY, TX, NV, LA, GA, SC, MI, AZ, IN) have already endorsed it and called for a Constitutional convention. Write for more info on what's happening in your state.



**Don't sit around,
waiting for a future
utopia. It's just
today and it always
will be.**

More corrections from Bob: "Just a quick note re one item in F5 vis a vis Provocateurs of Random Thought: Basically I agree it's run of the mill, but you failed to identify the one respect in which it is distinctive, viz., its specialized subject matter. It is, to my knowledge, the only all "industrial music" fanzine existent. It's not punk, HM, pop, etc. For people into this esoteric scene, even a mediocre publication may be of interest." And you see, the reason I didn't mention it is because I didn't figure it out, being illiterate as far as music goes. Anyone interested in industrial music should send an SASE to 1874 Fairview Ave., Berkeley, CA 94703.

LITTLE FREE PRESS #47 (FREE from Box 8201, Minneapolis, MN 55408): This is a pamphlet titled "How to Become a Millionaire (And End Wars in One Year)", by "Ernest Mann". His basic program is for workers to refuse pay so that their products can be free for all, but otherwise to keep the industrial infrastructure of the economy in place. It sounds crazy to me, but perhaps not crazy enough to work, to paraphrase Bohr. (By the way, I recently heard the rumor that Ernest has died. Can anyone confirm or, better yet, refute this?)

LIVING FREE #27 (\$1.25 from Jim Stumm, Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): This is "A Personal Journal of Self Liberation", devoted to ways in which people can start living freely without changing The System. Dropping out, going vonu, closet libertarianism and ocean living are some of the topics that keep turning up here. There are plenty of hints for those who are trying to make their own products and tools, and ads leading to other sources of self-reliance information.

THE BEST OF LOBSTER TENDENCIES (\$2.74 from Denise Dee, 333 Tenth St., San Francisco, CA 94103): LOBSTER TENDENCIES was twelve issues of bizarre art and writings from San Francisco's oddest minds. Now, for those of you who missed it the first time around, the best parts are all here in this 96-page collection. My favorite line is still "Feelings came up as she walked, like vomiting in another dimension." Literary surrealism at its very best.

THE LOG CABIN #72 (Sample \$1 from George L. Roberts, Rt. 1, Box 419, Fincastle, VA 24090): This is the newsletter of the "Back to the Land" Special Interest Group of MENSA, but you don't have to be a MENSA member to subscribe. Basically, it's a collection of letters from people who are farming or soon hope to be, discussing their successes and failures and sharing their lives. Anyone interested in the farming life should consider this a precious resource. For the rest of us it's just good reading.

MANAS, Vol. XXXVII No. 24 (30¢ from PO Box 32112, El Sereno Sta., Los Angeles, CA 90032): Ideas and viewpoints on philosophy and practical psychology written for the common man. They seem to be most interested in regaining a friendly relationship with Mother Earth, but I must confess that the writing is too dry to really interest me.

MESSAGE POST #16 (Sample \$1 from POB 190, Philomath, OR 97370): Yet another newsletter on alternate ways of living, this one written by a group of long-term campers and portable dwellers in the Pacific Northwest. They concentrate heavily on how to simply and practically solve the problems of life, often with recycled materials: mocassins made from old inner tubes, for example. They're not afraid of solar power, good bicycles or camping stoves, though. These are not technophobes but rather people who want to get through life on their own terms instead of being trapped in steady jobs and city apartments.

THE MEMORY HOLE #2 (\$1 from Vic Koman, PO Box 94, Long Beach, CA 90801-0094): This is an apa devoted to Revisionist History, which is the art or science of explaining why everything in your high school texts is a lie perpetrated by the ruling class. It's too soon to tell what the major interests here are going to be, though Holocaust revisionism, instant revisionism on current central American events, and the Knights Templars have all come up in the first two issues.

MOBILIZATION FOR ANIMALS (PO Box 1679, Columbus, OH 43216): This is one of the big animal rights groups, and it has been the target of a lot of criticism based on others view of its administration as being power-seeking. The latest mailing I have from them showcases a 5-point plan to end the squabbling among animal rightists, which might work.



MODERN HUMANS CATALOG #9 (\$1 from 22511 Markham, Perris, CA 92370): This is not a periodical, but rather a book catalog somewhat reminiscent of early stuff from Loompanics. Lots of stuff on rejuvenation, suppressed inventions, crackpot physics and so on. Also contains introductory material on the Modern Humans Comp Courses revealing the secrets of the universe.

MUMBLES #3 (\$2 from John Eberly, PO Box 7243, Wichita, KS 67218. Oops, add 50¢ for postage): Mostly comics but also contains an interview and a short story, both fairly interesting. Of the comics, I particularly liked "The life of Oscar" and "Mona to the Max", a touching tale of New Wave love. Also contains a surprise packet of minimalist postcards.

THE NATURAL LAW FAMILIST Vol. 3 #7 (Free from 5324 Sun Valley Dr., El Paso, TX 79924): This is the house organ of the Familist Movement, a splinter libertarian group who feel the family is the proper anchor of all society. Their major concerns are children's rights and Spontaneous Order theory. The latter postulates that market forces, for example, can regulate much of life better than governments. These people are sometimes infuriating in their refusal to listen to opposing points of view, but usually interesting nonetheless.

More Praise from Stewart: "Thanks for the copy of FACTSHEET FIVE and especially the review of SMILE. Publicity or just getting people to know you exist is always the problem with small zines and every little bit helps. I really enjoyed the Factsheet and found it very informative too." I'd better stop there lest I get a swelled head. I can't see that I deserve all that much credit for publicizing things because after all that's why this publication exists in the first place. Occasionally I feel like I'm not critical enough but it seems to me that the great majority of zines really are excellently done and represent real alternatives to the slick press.

NEOLOGY Vol. 9 #4 (\$1 from Box 4071, Edmonton, AB T6E 4S8 CANADA): This is the newsletter of the Edmonton Science Fiction and Comic Art Society, and it's not at all what you would expect from a bunch of Canuck fannies. Along with the SF reviews there is news on comics and role-playing games. The letter column is particularly endearing and the art and mimeography are wonderful. This is a fanzine which adheres to the old values, eschewing Star Trek fiction and alleged putrid humor. Also a good source of Canadian fan news.

NEW LIBERTARIAN #12.5 (SASE from NLCo, 1515 W. MacArthur Blvd #19, Costa Mesa, CA 92626): This is a two-page special announcing the coming retrenchment of the Konklin Publishing Empire. He claims to be dropping or spinning off a bunch of things and going back to a regular schedule with the much-missed NEW LIBERTARIAN, #12 of which should be out just about as you read this. Skeptics may want to wait before sending in their \$12.50 for five issues, but it looks like the chances are pretty good of it actually staying on schedule this time.

NEW SOLIDARITY Vol. XV, #44 (25¢ from Campaigner publications, 304 W. 58th St., New York, NY 10019): This is the newspaper of Lyndon LaRouche's various front groups, and is 100% guaranteed to contain no good news at all. Sample stories from this issue: "Washington Paralyzed as Soviets Ready War", "Stop Gnostic-Bulgarian Drug Mafia Behind Londono Brainwashing", and "Soviets Dictate New Assault on World Food Supply". The humor value is probably not worth the bother of being on their mailing list; look for freebies at your local college or airport.

NILCH (\$2 from Multinationalist, POB 811, Junction City, KS 66441): In the tradition of the late Gerry Reith, this is a collection of posters designed to tickle your frontal lobes. Opens with a stunning pseudo-Escher piece and continues with various snide remarks on the American way of life, the horror of the developing world, and general looniness. Some of the statements are so obscure that I can't figure them out, but I still enjoy them. Hang 'em on your wall at work to freak out the boss.

NOT AVAILABLE COMICS CATALOG (Free from Matt Feazell, Box 5803, Raleigh, NC 27650): Not Available published mini-comics, with only one-third the calories of a full-sized comic. Lead Characters in their universe include Cynicalman, Antisocialman, Cute Girl and Stupid Boy. Also carry original art, postcards, T-shirts and buttons.

OHIO CONNECTION CUMULATIVE NEWSLETTER (Free from Box 19523, Denver, CO 19523): This is from a group dedicated to making the Federal government live up to its own laws. The title comes from research they've done indicating that Ohio never lawfully joined the Union. They're very concerned with the intent of the framers of the Constitution rather than the later (and wider) interpretation, and are in particular gunning for the 17th Amendment, which changed the procedures for electing a Senator.

OP, "Y" Issue (\$2 from Lost Music Network, PO Box 2391, Olympia, WA 98507): This huge music magazine has been going along in alphabetical order, so they've not got much time left in business. They will, however, be involved with some sort of music networking magazine, and in the meantime you might like their "Y" issue. Tons of reviews, zine listings, jazz theory, Yaqui dances, radio news and more in this 96-pager.

OVERTHROW Vol. 6 #3 (\$1 from PO Box 392, Canal St. Station, New York, NY 10013): This is the newspaper of the Yippies, who are currently lost in a welter of conspiracy theories centering around the idea that old white men control the government and like hurting everyone else. They do carry a lot of international news you won't read elsewhere, either because it's been suppressed or because it's simply not true. They've also been active in campaigning against Reagan and other people they don't like.

POPULAR REALITY #2 (25¢ from ShiMo Underground, 112½ E. Hillcrest, Eugene, OR 97404): "Lumpen & Proud Cultural Terrorists" proclaims this budding SubGenius tabloid. For those not in the know, the Church of the SubGenius is a relatively new faith dedicated to completely terrorizing the normal people in the world by acting crazy. This issue features lots of pseudo-political ravings and some strange collage graphics.

POSITIVE PREGNANCY FITNESS Vol. 2 #1.1 (\$12/year from PPF c/o Sylvia Klein Olkin, 4 Lauren Lane, Norwich, CT 06360): PPF seems to be a group of midwife/instructors and interested people who are trying to promote happy & healthy births. The lead article in this issue seems particularly worthwhile to me; it discusses the experiences of one woman who wasn't able to go through with a home birth (due to a breech presentation) and how she got over the feelings that this meant there had been something wrong with the whole process.

POWER FOR LIVING (\$1 from David Roth, 2521 Irving S., Minneapolis, MN 55405): This zine assaults your eyes with a stark b&w layout and rough-edged graphics. Contains concert and record reviews and band interviews, concentrating on groups like "Gotterdammerung", "Meat Puppets", "Subhumans" and "Jodie Foster's Army" which should give you some idea of their area of expertise: raw-edged heavy-duty punk rock. The interviews get closer to the bone than most I've seen: the questions go beyond "So tell us about your latest show" and into ideology.

PRESUMPTIONS #2 (SASE for sample from Patrick Miller, 1442A Walnut St. #58, Berkeley, CA 94709): "A letter at large", this is an experiment in self-publishing who seems to think that self-publishing means only little literary journals. Boy, is he in for a surprise when he gets this issue of FF. Anyways, the main concerns here seem to be the craftsmanship of poems and prose, and the struggles of the craftsmen. Might grow into something big. I'm taking a guess at the sample price; the subscription price is \$10-30 a year, pay what you think it's worth.



THE REIKI REVIEW Vol. IV #5 (\$15 with membership from American-International Reiki Assn., PO Box 13778, Atlanta, GA 30324): Reiki seems to be in the main a series of techniques for channeling energy so as to heal hurts and pains, though there are probably ramifications here that I'm completely unaware of. Much of the newsletter consists of testimonials from members, plus history of Reiki and general announcements. My one worry is that they're indoctrinating children into the technique at ages as young as four weeks. This does not smack of freedom to me.

ROLLING STOCK #7 (\$1.50 from Independent Publications, 7001 N. Clark Rm 323, Chicago, IL 60626): "If it moves, print it", says the cover, and I think they took their own advice to thought. I guess the unifying factor to this tabloid must be a love of experimentation with literary forms, because the subjects covered include prostitution, Indian rights, capitalism, life in Syria and working behind a bar, to name a few. There's a lot of stuff here for a buck and a half, but darned if I know why it's all here.

Oops. I should have mentioned this above. HOW TO COMMIT SUICIDE IN SOUTH AFRICA is also available from the nice folks at Independent Pubs. In fact they were the ones to send me my review copy. Write and ask 'em for a catalog or some flyers or something -- they stock a phenomenal array of comics and pubs that you won't find on the corner newsstand.

THE RUNESTONE #48 (\$7/year from Asatru Free Assembly, PO Box 1832, Grass Valley, CA 95945): This bunch is into Odinism or, as they apparently prefer to term it, Asatru. Full of stuff like "Courage is Better than Cowardice", an analysis of the goddess Freya and stuff on swords and Nietzsche and like that. Also has an interesting assortment of ads and announcements of Odinist doings about the country.

ST. GEORGE BOOK SERVICE (PO Box 225, Spring Valley, NY 10977): Rudolf Steiner is apparently the main man of this bunch, and Anthroposophy is the science of the year. Somehow I don't think you can find books like CHRISTIANITY AND THE OCCULT MYSTERIES OF ANTIQUITY growing on trees. Other topics include Biblical analysis and home education. Their prices look pretty reasonable and I guess this catalog is free.

PHALLOS, October 1984 (\$5/year from 583 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94102): This is here because I had it alphabetized as the St. Priapus Church Newsletter, OK? They're finally putting this thing on a subscription basis to defer costs, as they've been having financial problems lately due to losing some of the resources behind their gay rescue mission. Anyhow, the Church is devoted to phallic worship and the belief that sex can destroy evil, and claim to be able to trace lots of roots in historic Christianity.

SCIENCE OF MIND No v. 1983 (\$1.75 from 3521 W. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90075): This is a "Daily Guide to Richer Living", from folks who believe we can get a whole lot out of the universe. Most of the magazine consists of daily readings on God and Creative Mind, written in a religious but non-denominational fashion. Also contains articles on how to more effectively employ visualizations and such in your own life. I'm sure they don't intend it, but much of this could be profitably pirated by open-minded pagans.

THE SILVER LINING #28 (\$5/year from David Paolini, PO Box 24634, Philadelphia, PA 19111): This is a collection of ads from various mail order places, with opportunities for the reader to place his own ads. Things listed include Firecracker making, Multilevel marketing, designer pantyhose and the ever-popular roach traps. Also has leads to other, similar mail-order publications. I wonder if anyone besides the publishers is making money?

Julie writes, "Interesting that poetry doesn't do anything for you but you like artwork. Those who don't get anything from art could say for art what you did about poetry wasting space. I find most poetry and art meaningless. But some touches me deeply; though so little that I no longer search for it." I was sort of thinking that I publish art and not poetry because the former breaks up the blocks of type on the page, but on reflection poetry would do that just as well. But I'm not sure I want to open myself to the torrents of stuff that could flow in if I started pubbing poetry. I find it easier to like amateur art than amateur poetry; somehow I doubt that I'd get anything of the quality of the two or three poems that have meant something to me.

SLEAZOID EXPRESS Vol. 3 #7 (\$8/year from Bill Landis, PO Box 799, Peter Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009): This is another of them things devoted to trashy movies. What makes this one unique is that the articles go beyond the screen and into real life: discussion of the heroin trade in New York and books about mass murderers in this issue. This is not the sort of stuff in the world that I personally care to spend a lot of time thinking about, let alone panting over. But to each his own.

SMILE 3 (Send a couple of IRC's to Stewart Home, 31 Norfolk Farm Road, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey, GU22 8LH ENGLAND): This used to be the organ of Generation Positive, but they've changed their name to the Neoist Cultural Conspiracy. Neoism is still an attempt at creating a movement in the art world to rival Dadaism, Surrealism, and all those other isms. Zine contents consist of strange poetry and stranger prose. Highlight of this issue is the Neoist Manifesto, calling for "self-aggrandisement in all aspects of life."

SOJOURNER, August 1984 (\$1 from 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139): This paper bills itself as "The Woman's Forum", and seems in general to be as modern as modern can be. Lots of coverage of woman's anti-nuke actions, tips on surviving abuse and incest, the ideological implications of test-tube birth, and plenty of fiction and poetry, including what I guess must be politically-correct and tasteful ~~porn~~ erotica.

SON OF BIOHAZARD INFORMAE (\$1 from Fred Mills, 1211-G Green Oaks Lane, Charlotte, NC 28205): This is a one-shot special zine issued by the publisher of U2 USA, discussing the topic of "why do fanzine writers write?" Fred sent out a letter asking and got back about 20 responses, enough to lead to an entertaining analysis of the reasons that we fools throw away money on these little publications. If you're thinking of doing your own fanzine, buy this first and see if it changes your mind.

SRAF BULLETIN #88 (\$1 from Sean Haugh, 11 University Ave., Medford, MA 02155): SRAF is the Social Revolutionary Anarchist Foundation, and this is the group's member-written journal. Allegedly this zine exists for the serious discussion of anarchy, and occasionally someone makes a move in that direction, but the current big topic is whether to censor an anti-Zionist member who is allegedly anti-Semitic. Contains some heartening news of people actually trying to do something to promote anarchy in between their constant bickering.

THE STAR BLAZERS FANDOM REPORT #14 (\$5/yr from PO Box 1047, Bellmore NY 11710): Star Blazers is a Japanese animated science fiction series, and this is the zine for its fanatic supporters. Much of this issue consists of home-drawn comic strips featuring the Star Blazers characters. They're talking about expanding their interests to cover all Japanimation.

THE STARK FIST OF REMOVAL No. 41 Vol. 17 (\$3 from Church of the SubGenius, PO Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214): This is the OFFICIAL mag of the SubGenii, 112 jam-packed pages of gutsplitting dogma, slander, lies and news. The prophet, JR "Bob" Dobbs, has been assassinated, and much of this issue covers that dreadful event. But the rest is even better -- contact addresses for hundreds of fanzines and groups too deranged for me to even consider giving them publicity in FACTSHEET FIVE. You want to get in tough with the real loonies, quit messing around and contact these people.

SYNTHESIS #17 (\$3.25/5 from PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733): This one is published by the League for Ecological Democracy. Their main thrust is living in peace with the earth and the restructuring of society to bring this about. "Green Politics" and "Deep Ecology" are two of the areas that they're exploring. This might be the bottom floor of a mass movement for social change. Good coverage of worldwide ecological problems in an age when such are no longer popular and trendy.

TACTICS OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE LIBERTARIAN LEFT #9 (\$1 from MLL, PO Box 1748, Long Beach, CA 90801): The MLL is the ultra-anarchic wing of libertarian thought in southern California. If their analysis of the power elite in this country is correct, expect a war in Central America perhaps before this issue of FF gets to you. There are plans being hatched here to move society to the left by just plain ignoring the government. Could fizzle or boom, depending on the accuracy of the war predictions and resulting student recruitment.

THUNDERBOW #82 (\$6/year from Church of Seven Arrows, 4385 Hoyt St. #201, Wheatridge, CO 80033): Church of Seven Arrows is certainly one of the most eclectic neo-Pagan groups that I know of. Officially they're a Universal Life Church congregation, but in this issue they combine a bit of astrology, some I Ching, and writings from a Scientologist, an Indian and a Celt, among other things. Their main emphasis is on new ideas for any tradition. They also carry a useful calendar of coming events such as festivals and training sessions.

TRILOGY Vol. 2 #6 (Free from SAT, 64 E. 94th St. #1A, New York, NY 10128): "Analytical Trilogy" claims to be a new school of psychoterapy which can be applied to any field of human endeavor. They apparently believe they have all the answers, right down to their own crackpot cosmology. They're also very right-wing politically and down on other New Age groups as being tools of the Devil or somesuch. I have a nasty suspicion that a better term for Analytical Trilogy is "brainwashing."

U2 USA #3 (\$2.50 from Fred Mills, 1211-G Green Oaks Lane, Charlotte, NC 28205): This is something of an anomaly, a music fanzine devoted entirely to the music of one group. Fortunately, the band's music is rich enough to allow extended discussion without boring repetition. No doubt this is a must if you like the band, because I don't know where else you'd get the overwhelming amount of information it holds.

Dave says: "I'm not sure how faithfully I believe in libertarianism, as I've heard (and read) such a wide range of definitions and interpretations. Some I go along with, some I actively oppose, some ring like stuff that looks better on paper than in real life, and some seems aimed only for specific groups who are already in (at least potentially) decent shape." I'm not surprised that you have such a fragmented view: it's a fragmented movement. Deep down, the common denominator ought to be a belief in liberty for all, but in some cases I think this has been forgotten. It's really a mistake to think that libertarianism has one simple definition. At best, a profession of libertarian sympathies probably indicates that it might be worth talking to this person to find out more.

UNCLE DICK'S LITTLE THING #7 (25¢ from Richard H E Smith II, 2007 W. Howard #3D, Evanston, IL 60202-3656): This is a fanzine devoted exclusively to gossip in the SF fannish community. The big topic this time is the financial bailout of the disastrous 1983 World SF Convention. Dick also reports on a batch of weddings, lawsuits and other nonsense like the non-battle to host the 1988 Worldcon. If none of this means a thing to you, don't send money, but fen may find this amusing and even (Ghu forbid) informative.

UNDULANT FEVER #9 (\$3 from Bruce D. Arthurs, 3421 W. Poinsettia, Phoenix, AZ 85029-3227): Much of this zine consists of Bruce talking about his own reading and writing. The rest of it is a very lively letter column. The big news about this issue is perhaps that the long debate over the 1977 Worldcon in Phoenix may finally be winding down, which just goes to show something or other. The sub price is exorbitant, but UF is also available for trade.

THE UNICORN Vol. VII #8 (\$10/year from PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Pleasant pagan writing on topics like herbs and astrology (seperately, not together), book reviews and poetry. The Unicorn is a project of the Rowan Tree, a "Mystery School" which will apparently teach you esoterica through the mails. They also have a pretty extensive contact list which ought to be of interest to pagan readers of FF.

AMERICAN JUSTICE: ABC'S OF HOW IT REALLY WORKS (\$1.60 stamps from United Prisoner Personnel International, c/o Avi Naftel, PO Box B-45287, Florence, AZ 85232): UPPI is a prisoner's activism group composed solely of inmates at the Arizona State Pen. This particular publication is a long essay documenting the greed inherent in the legal system today, and arguing that justice (if it happens) is strictly an accidental byproduct. UPPI is also interested in hearing of any prisoners that are being denied their rights and have plans to bring out several other publications.

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THE UPPER TRIAD #106 (Free from PO Box 1370, Manassas, VA 22110): "Commentaries on the Esoteric Philosophy", says the cover, and in this particular issue the topics are: Pleasure, Second Ray Leadership, The Tropes of Agrippa, and The Void and Chaos. There are lots of fancy words in here, and lots of mystical stuff, but I'm not sure I was actually able to extract any meaning from it. They seem to have built up an elaborate symbolism over the years, and it might take some time for a newcomer to penetrate it.

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH, Vol. III #9 (\$3 from Peggy Poor, PO Box 100787, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33310): This is a major journal of the Tax Patriot network, or whatever you want to call those folks who are out to abolish the IRS and Federal Reserve and return us to a simpler and saner government. Active in court and on paper, the Ostrich is the best way I've found to make contacts in this area. The more people who get in on this, the better the chance of getting some changes.

URGL-ORP #8 (\$1.25 from Nicole, 36-2300 Ogilvie Rd., Gloucester, Ont. K1J 7X8 CANADA): This is a punk rock zine that has taken some of the messages in the music to heart. Consequently, things like human rights and the growth of "civilization" get mentioned in between the record reviews and band interviews. Vegetarianism is another of their big concerns, and there are enough facts about factory farming in this issue to put you off chicken for a week.

MICHAEL VOODOO (SASE from PO Box 57232, Washington, DC 20037): This guy sent me some xerox-art collages. I don't know why. Some of them seem to be making social statements. One is completely incomprehensible. And one is either a pro-drug statement or an anti-drug statement, and I haven't been able to figure out which. The latter is my favorite of the bunch.

VOX POP #9 (SASE from PO Box 8161, Brewster Sta., Bridgeport, CT 06605): This is a free tabloid covering the Connecticut music scene. From R E M. to complete unknowns, from heavy metal to punk to mainstream, they seem to provide fair coverage of everything. The best part of this issue is a spirited response in the letter column to someone who claimed that Satan was behind rock music. A few comic strips round out the paper.

WALLPAPER, Nov. 1984 (25¢ from PO Box 3324, Trenton, NJ 08619): Stories, poems and drawings in a (sometimes vaguely) humorous mood. Also orgies for redheads. Since I'm not a redhead, my favorite feature is the continuing saga of "Bagels", a story without beginning, end or even much plot, designed to warp your mind by causing you to look endlessly for hidden meanings and directions to kill the president.

WIERDO #10 (\$2.50 from Independent Pubs, 7001 N. Clark Pk. 323, Chicago, IL 60626): New Wave comics in a variety of disgusting styles. Designed to offend while giving the reader ample opportunity to congratulate himself on having enlightened tastes. If there was anything of socially redeeming value in here, I missed it. Funny stuff.

WHOLE LIFE TIMES #37 (\$1.50 from 18 Shepard St., Brighton, MA 02135): These folks are into every sort of nut diet and therapy that anyone has dreamed up. Seventy-some pages of water purifiers, cosmic energy and bean-sprout laxatives is enough to make anyone wonder where the truth lies. Well, some of it is in their articles, but you have to sift 'em carefully and look for confirmation. As an adjunct to the whole life, they're also getting into politics and anti-nuke stuff.

THE WHOLE SHMEER #5 (50¢ from POB 7742, Salt Lake City, UT 84107): This is from the Church of the Latest Dazed Frenzy, another SubGenius group. They specialize in Mormon jokes and carefully annotated calendars showing such things as National Bookkeepers Day and Jelly Roll Morton's birthday. The head LDF, Rev. Katlady, has a delightful sense of humor that has unfortunately been perverted into unnatural paths by this evil bullshit religion.

WIGGANSNATCH #11 (\$1 from Laughing Otter, 701 31st Ave. S., Seattle WA 98144): Otter opens this issue of his pagan zine with reprints of laudatory reviews from lots of places, including FP. After this bit of egoboosting, we find articles on spirit guides, dreams, phallus-worship and ghosthunting, but the lively lettercolumn seems to be missing. For the irreverent pagan and fellow traveler.

THE WINDANCE SOCIETY FLYER (\$1 from PO Box 120504, Nashville, TN 37212): This is a zine devoted to kite-flying, a popular sport across the country. The big news this time is the 1984 American Kitefliers Convention, which is unfortunately already over. Subscribe to this one and you'll know precisely what to do next time you are told to go fly a kite.

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARTH #10 (Trade from Garth Spencer, 1296 Richardson St., Victoria, BC V8V 3E1 CANADA): General thoughts on SF fandom and the world in general, interspersed with letters of comment and convention reports and the ever-popular fanzine reviews. Garth has a readable style and could grow into a well-known fanwriter if he doesn't chuck it all in disgust first.

WORLD PEACE GAME REPORT (\$1 from Mycall Sunanda, 605 SE 15th, Portland OR 97214): This is the result of a brainstorming session based on Bucky Fuller's ideas for a better world, made for a cable TV station. Basically a listing of New Age ideas like "Competitive into Cooperative" and "Decentralized Systems". I'm afraid there may be more smoke than fire here, but it's a start towards building a new future, and every little bit counts.

THE YOUNG LIBERTARIAN #6 (25¢ from 5214 Palmetto Lane, Fayetteville, NC 28304): The struggling paper of a group struggling to get some sort of libertarian resurgence on our college campuses. Anti-draft, anti-drug-law and so on, this concentrates mainly on student issues, and calls for change through the Libertarian Party and by other means.

ZEKE THE GEEK'S THEATER OF WIERDNESS (\$2 from Randy Maxson, 56A Bowdoin St., Malden, MA 02148): This is the second Zeke comic book. Zeke is a likeable shlub who always seems to end up in trouble no matter what he tries. Also in this book are strips featuring Ned the Street Preacher and some miscellaneous stuff. Randy's style is developing -- soon his art will be able to keep up with his sense of humor.

And now for the stuff that came in after I'd started typing the above reviews:

ACTION LINKAGE (Box 2240, Wickenburg, AZ 85358): These people have grandiose plans for transforming the face of society through networking and grassroots initiative. Unfortunately, membership is \$30 so I haven't seen enough of their program to evaluate it in detail. Networking is hot stuff right now; we need some expert to start distinguishing the valuable stuff from the trendy ripoffs. This looks like it belongs in the former category, but I can't be sure.

AEON #1 (Trade from César Ignacio Ramos, Apartado Postal 4129, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00905): This claims to be the first 100% Puerto Rican fanzine, and as far as I know, it is. César started out as a comics fan and gradually moved into mainstream fandom. In doing so, he became involved in an incredibly convoluted and Machievellian fan feud, and most of this issue is an attempt to straighten the whole mess out. I hope we see something else out of him next time -- this stuff is boring unless you were in there slugging as it happened.

THE CONNECTION #122 (\$1.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, 9850 Fairfax Sq. #232, Fairfax, VA 22031): This is an apa devoted to libertarianism and other theoretical politics which also happens to sell subscriptions. The discussions are characterized by much bickering and elaborate systems of terminology. The tenny-tiny print (much smaller than this) may also be a barrier to some. Nevertheless, it's fun if you enjoy stretching your mind and prejudices.

EMANCIPATION #58 (\$5/year from AAA, Box 840, Benjamin Franklin Sta., Washington, DC 20044): A long-running anarchist monthly, this one has a wide variety of interests and there are different subjects in every issue. Lead story this time is about Vets, claiming among other things that 60,000 VietNam vets have committed suicide, more than were killed in the war. Good short articles on current actions and the historical roots of anarchy.

WORLD UNIVERSITY TIMES Vol. 1 #16 (Free from CARP, 481 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10001): This is the student paper of the Unification Church, aka "Moonies". Whether you like their religion or not, the fact remains that they're hard-core in favor of freedom of religion & the press, and deserve some support and respect for their stands.

STARS ON ONE

by Anni Ackner

Frankly, I don't know what's the matter with me these days. Perhaps it has something to do with the weather -- which has been horrendous lately, thank you very much, and if any of the Pagan readers of this publication know any good remedies for air that just sort of HANGS there like so many Republican Congresspeople at a \$500 a plate fundraiser, threatening to rain but never quite getting around to doing anything about it (also not unlike certain Congresspeople of the Republican persuasion), I wish they'd write to me and let me know. It's awfully tiresome this way -- or perhaps it has something to do with the State of the Nation (always handy if one needs something on which to blame things in a pinch), or perhaps it has something to do with the fact that my 31st birthday is approaching with really unseemly haste and the only thing I can think of that I actually want is John Lithgow, and no one seems willing to give him to me but, whatever the reason, recently my attention span just hasn't been what it once was. Time was --oh, and it seems so long ago to me now -- that I could take the flimsiest premise imaginable for a column and parlay it into six pages of overwrought prose without even giving the matter a second thought. In those halcyon days, the shadiest excuse for an idea could cause me to give forth with sentence after sentence of actual writing which, if it wasn't exactly deathless, at least contained some interesting punctuation, and the proverbial house could have fallen in on me while I was doing it, without my even noticing (incidentally, just as an aside, on one noteworthy occasion the house DID fall in on me -- or, at any event, a good chunk of the ceiling crashed down upon my bed -- and I paid it absolutely no mind whatsoever until The Sister To Whom I Do Not Speak, who had inadvertantly caused the mishap by attempting a particularly strenuous aerobic exercise directly overhead, came down to survey the damage. She honestly was awfully sorry about it, and only grumbled moderately when I refused her generous offer to create a three-dimensional portrait of me using the loose pieces of plaster), but no more, my friends, no more. Somehow, these days, while I don't really have any dearth of ideas -- I am afflicted with ideas in much the same manner and with much the same frequency as some women are afflicted with minor feminine itching -- I simply don't have the concentration to carry anything through.

Take this evening, for instance -- and I do wish somebody would. God knows I'm not getting any use out of it. As I attempt to write this, I am also watching the debate between Vice President George Bush and Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro (a study in contrasts roughly akin to a Battle of the Bands between Doc Severnson and the NBC orchestra and Cyndi Lauper), and, rather than giving this article the attention it deserves (and if you have any amusing remarks as to just how much attention it does deserve, I wish you'd keep them to yourself. My sense of humor isn't what it used to be, either), or even paying full mind to the debate itself, I am allowing myself to be distracted by the fact that Ms. Ferraro is standing on a box. Now, Ms. Ferraro is standing on a box for a perfectly legitimate reason -- as it happens, she's several inches shorter than Mr. Bush, and, were she not standing on a box, it would be difficult for the camera to focus on both of them at once, besides giving Mr. Bush a rather unfair psychological advantage -- and even if she were standing on a box merely because it gave her a kinky thrill to stand on a box it's certainly none of MY business if she wants to stand on a box, but, such is my state of mind that I can't seem to forget that she's standing on a box and think of anything else. What, I wonder, would happen if she fell off the box? What if the box collapsed (Ms. Ferraro is a small, slender woman, but they aren't making boxes the way they used to)? Wouldn't it have been safer to dig a trench for Mr. Bush to stand in instead? Maybe there should be a height requirement for vice-presidential candidates. I mean, you see how it is, and, honestly, it's been this way for weeks, and I haven't the slightest clue what to do with it. Here I sit, with a FACTSHEET FIVE deadline and a head full of ideas, and I can't concentrate enough to make a column out of any of them. In fact, all I can do, what with the box and all, is present the following:

1. It's probably a bit late in the day to bring this up, but I feel compelled to tell you that, a few weeks ago, I watched the Miss America Pageant for the first time in about eighteen years (which, now that I think of it, may have been the cause of my problem in the first place). I am, at this point, also compelled to admit that I'm as much of a rubbernecker as the next person, and the only reason I turned it on was to see how they handled the Vanessa Williams Debacle. It came as no very great surprise to me that the way they handled it was by ignoring the issue altogether -- a tactic that will be familiar to anyone who has ever seen a grammar school history text that theoretically covers the Vietnam War years -- but what did surprise me was the utter, blank tedium of the affair. I mean, I knew the thing was sexist. I knew that it was babbity, that it extolled a set of white, middle-class American virtues no longer believed in by anyone except a few of the more antic members of the Reagan administration, and that it promoted in young girls the demoralizing idea that they were worth nothing more than the sum of their physical parts, but what I somehow hadn't realized was that it was boring. And it is. It really is. In fact, it's amazing just how boring the sight of fifty-one young women, all wearing the sort of dress that can still occasionally be seen in the back pages of a Sears catalog, and all with basically the same face and virtually the same body, cavorting through a tap dance routine that was probably instrumental in the death of vaudeville, can get to be. From now on, whenever I find myself in the throes of insomnia, instead of counting sheep I believe I'll count Miss Alabamas.

2 I have seen the future of the motion picture and it is THE ADVENTURES OF BUCKAROO BONZAI ACROSS THE EIGHTH DIMENSION. This move is so exquisite that I wish I could tell you all about it, but if I did, you probably wouldn't believe me. After all, who in his or her right mind would believe a plot line whose hero is a half Japanese/half Occidental neurosurgeon and scientist who fronts a Bruce Springsteen-esque rock band in his spare time (Peter Weller, who I once saw in a rather good Joseph Papp production in Central Park, is the properly serious and devastatingly wooden Buckaroo. He may never be able to get another film role again after this, but he really shouldn't care. Like James Bond, Dr. Who, and Sherlock Holmes, this part is worth a dozen "serious" acting endeavors), whose villains resemble giant warrior ants in business suits and are all named John (A gold star to anyone who can spot Christopher Lloyd without looking at the credits), whose Omnipotent Beings From Another World are Rastifarians who are also all named John, and whose arch fiend is a mad scientist who looks like Frederick March in his Mr. Hyde days and who obviously uses the same vocal coach as Father Guido Sarducci (John Lithgow is DELICIOUS, turning in his best low-comedic performance of the past five years, John Belushi and Bill Murray notwithstanding. I firmly believe the man can do ANYTHING -- up to and including portraying Eleanor Roosevelt if that's what makes him happy -- and if he doesn't get the Academy Award THIS time I will know beyond the shadow of any doubt that the whole thing is rigged. Won't somebody please find a way to give him to me for my birthday? Pretty please)? Nah, I wouldn't believe it myself if somebody told ME. All I can really say with any assurance is that this movie will finally tell you the real truth concerning Orson Welles WAR OF THE WORLDS broadcast of 1939, and you should all hop like little bunnies to see it, before someone takes it away. Quick, quick, quick.

3. On the other hand, I expect all of you to do your very best to avoid CAREFUL, HE MIGHT HEAR YOU. Okay, I know what the Real Film Critics said, but please bear in mind for a moment that the Real Film Critics also liked TERMS OF ENDEARMENT. This is one of those dark, dark, abundantly dark movies that make Ingmar Bergman look like Mack Sennett and leave one nostalgic for the good old days when one only got depressed over unimportant things, like the death of a loved one or the threat of imminent nuclear holocaust. It concerns, if anyone is interested, the custody battle of two equally unsuitable aunts over a little boy so nauseatingly cute that one is left wondering why anybody wants him in the first place. (What is it about child actors, anyway? Why are they all Like That? It's the best argument I know for retroactive birth control.) Nobody in this film is likeable, nobody is sympathetic and, while nobody in the world enjoys a good cry as much as I do, because of

the aforementioned two qualities, this film is about as capable of inspiring tears as a second showing of ABBA - THE MOVIE. This film is, however, Gothic. This film is gloomy. This film was made in Australia. I hate Qantas.

4. Arguably the best new programme of the season is THE COSBY SHOW. Now, one either likes situation comedies or one doesn't -- I happen to, but given offerings like THREE'S COMPANY and THE JEFFERSONS, I can very easily understand why many people don't. Even I tend to quail when faced with something produced by Gary Marshall -- but every so often one comes along that rises so far above the normal level of the genre as to transcend all barriers of personal inclination (THE MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW, TAXI, BARNEY MILLER and the first BOB NEWHART SHOW are the ones that come most readily to my mind, along with classics like THE HONEYMOONERS and BURNS AND ALLEN. For those purists among you, I am not adding MASH and ALL IN THE FAMILY to the list simply because, while often comedic, they weren't exactly comedies in the sense of the word, particularly in their last few years). Bill Cosby has probably given me more laughs over more years than any other comedian working today -- with the possible exception of Bob Newhart -- so I was, I confess, predisposed to like his show before I'd ever seen it, but, as frequently is NOT the case, it has, so far, managed to live up to all my expectations. Like his standup routines, it's quirky without being self-consciously bizarre, warm without being sentimental, and depends for its humor more on the absurdities of everyday life and a slow unfolding of a story than on zany "situations" and boffo one-liners. This is not, unlike most of the shows I consider good comedies, an ensemble piece -- it all revolves around Cosby, and the actors portraying his wife and children are really nothing more than window dressing, there for the sole purpose of reacting to him -- so if you don't care for Cos you probably won't care for it, but if you find him funny (and in a good fifteen years of talking to lots of people who were very serious about comedy, I've never run across anyone that didn't), it will be more than worth your while to catch this.

5. Unarguably the worst new programme of this season is PUNKY BREWSTER. You remember when I told you about TERMS OF ENDEARMENT and I said it had everything except a noble dog? Well, this one has the noble dog. Aside from that, it also has an adorable, spunky little girl whose mother abandons her at a supermarket (watch the show for ten minutes and you'll understand why) (incidentally, the sprout portraying this little charmer is called Soleil Moon Frye and, while I have no great brief with young children, still, I do think there ought to be some sort of law protecting them against parents who do this sort of thing to them. If, in ten years or so, we begin to hear of a rise in parental slayings by teenaged offspring, I think we'll all know to what to attribute it), an adorable spunky old man who discovers the waif living in an abandoned apartment and takes her into his life, and an adorable spunky female social worker who makes their life together possible. The acting is of that variety normally associated with political campaign commercials for slightly shady district attorneys, the plots are just what you might expect, and really the best thing you can say about it is that everyone concerned has at least the good grace to look embarrassed by the goings-on. This is the sort of programme that inspired the phrase "vast wasteland", and, if you have any amount of morbid curiosity at all, you'd better see it before someone at NBC, having run out of cocaine, gets wise and yanks it off the air.

6. Finally, now that the World Series is over and everyone knows the outcome, the only thing my saying that I'd forecasted the Padres in seven (I thought that the Tigers probably had the better team over the long haul, but, in a seven game series, with San Diego having the home park advantage in four, and the Series experience of Garvey, Nettles and Gossage backing them, my money, if not my heart, was with them) proves is that it's a good thing I'm not trying to make a living from predicting the outcome of professional sporting events, but won't you all join me in sponsoring a special award to the Padres for having the ugliest uniforms in the major leagues? I personally have only seen that rarified shade of brown on one other thing occurring in nature, and I'm too much of a lady to tell you what it is, and it had to have taken a genius in design to unearth a shade of yellow guaranteed to clash with everything that gets near it. This sort of spectacular hideousness deserves recognition of some kind, and I think that, if we all put our heads together, we can come up with something appropriate. At the

moment, I'm leaning towards season tickets for the whole team to filmings of PUNKY BREWSTER, but I'm open to suggestions.

You see, then, how it is. I am, at the moment, a mere shadow of my former verbose self and, while I'm tolerably certain that there are those among you busily popping open champagne bottles over that one, it worries me as, if it doesn't abate soon, I shall have to find some other field of endeavor (perhaps working for the Mondale campaign, boosting up Ms. Ferraro during televised debates). It is a problem to which I have no solution and, if any of you do, I wish you'd write to me and tell me about it. As far as I know, the only thing in the neighbourhood of visual arts in the next couple of months is MTV's plans to start a new network devoted to videos for the "older" market and, in my current state, I doubt very much that I'm going to be able to do anything at all with what I can only visualize as 24 hours a day of Marvin Hamlisch. For your own sake, as well as mine, please help.

"O" LEVEL COUNTER CULTURE

Timewarp allowed: 3 hours. Do not scrawl situationist graffiti in the margins or stub your rollups in the inkwells. Orange may be worn. Credit will be given to candidates who self actualise.

1. Compare and contrast Pink Floyd with Black Sabbath and say why neither has street credibility.
2. "Even Buddha would have been hard pushed to reach Nirvana squatting on a juggernaut route." Consider the dialectic of inner truth and inner city.
3. Write notes on three of the following:
a) Leylines. b) 1969 Moon Landing. c) Jung d) Woodstock. e) Tai Chi. f) Red Leb.
4. "The Egomaniac's Liberation Front were a bunch of revisionist ripoff merchants." Comment on this insult.
5. Account for the lack of references to brown rice in Dylan's lyrics.
6. Which is the most hassle: a) being paranoid a black hole is about to suck you into it, b) NME dismissing your concept album as ideologically unsound heavy metal dross.
7. Write an essay either on rebirthing or why you think Leonard Cohen's great.
8. "Casteneda was a bit of a bozo." How far is this a fair summing up of western dualism?
9. A racket or a rocket to the unconscious? Provide a radical critique of meditation.
10. Hermann Hesse was a pisces. Discuss.

EXAMINATION FEE: £250

Decide to network
Use every letter you write
Every conversation you have
Every meeting you attend
To express your fundamental beliefs and dreams
Affirm to others the vision of the world you want
Network through thought
Network through action
Network through love
Network through the spirit
You are the center of a network
You are the center of the world
You are a free, immensely powerful source
of life and goodness
Affirm it
Spread it
Radiate it
Think day and night about it
And you will see a miracle happen:
the greatness of your own life.
In a world of big powers, media, and monopolies
But of four and a half billion individuals
Networking is the new freedom
the new democracy
a new form of happiness.

Let's talk about The Factsheet Five Contest #5: which consists, quite simply, of suggesting the question which is to be the subject of Factsheet Five contest #6. So far, the entries have been few and far between, and I'm not that thrilled with them. The current front-runners are:

What color is a chameleon on a mirror?
Why is there pubic hair?

What is the answer to this question?

Should you care to endorse any of these entries, or even suggest a question of your own, you have until the next FF deadline (which, lest you forget, is January 20th, 1985) to enter. After that, I shall announce the winner of the free subscription and the ever-popular other valuable considerations.

PENNE D IN

by Shane Williams

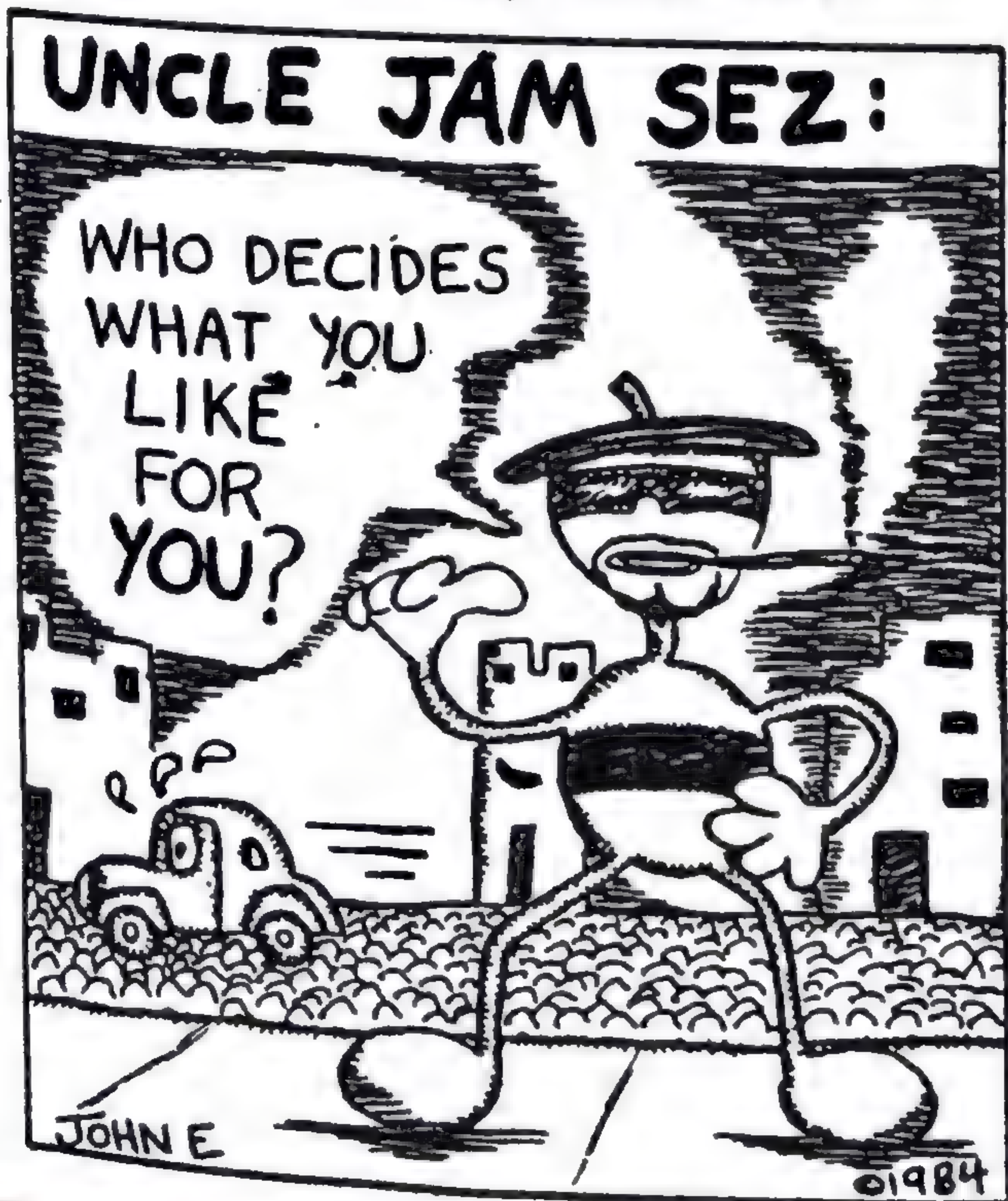
For those of you who don't already know or haven't figured it out, the reason my column is called "Penned In" is because I am in the pen. Of course there is also the fact that I send it to the Church of BBBTLE in penned form and our illustrious high priest (Mr. Ed) must transpose it into legible typeset prose.

At any rate, I won't be able to cover much live music (unless I arrange for a group to play here behind the walls, which has happened twice: The Dream Syndicate in March '83 and The Three O'Clock in November '83) and even my coverage of music I've recently heard is rather limited. It consists of only broadcasts after 1 AM on the college station I can just barely pick up and of whatever stuff I can get on cassette after bypassing the powers-that-be that don't provide for that as part of the regular program. Unlike some state pens, the Feds don't allow TVs and personal stereos in the cells.

So all this build-up is to let you know that a lot of my most up-to-date information on music comes from fanzines. Once again, so you can read some of these wonderful paens to fandom instead of getting everything secondhand from me, I'm going to review some zines I've seen since I last did this type of column (about a year ago) and I might try to list some independent record distributors as well.

CONFLICT (9 Jeffrey Rd., Wayland, MA 01778. \$1/issue) -- This zine has been around for a while. Thus, as often happens, the editor, Gerald Cosloy, is in a number of feuds with other musical types. Rival editors, struggling musicians, and various radio personalities grit their teeth at him. Which means that this publication is never boring because it doesn't play it safe and just lavish praise on the music nearest and dearest to its heart. He covers a lot of what is going on in Boston, but he also reviews all kinds of records in the psychedelic, post-punk and hardcore categories. Well worth the price.

THE BOB (PO Box 897 Ansonia Sta., New York, NY 10023. \$1 or \$10/10) -- This publication is on newsprint and is about ROLLING STONE size (but not as thick). They concentrate on full-length features and interviews with musicians and bands. They cover American and European, both obscure and semi-popular. This issue (#19) has R.E.M., Gary Glitter, and even an interview with David Bowie's ex, Angie. It seems sad that he won't even talk to her anymore. It's also kind of sad that she had to turn to Kim Fowley to put out an upcoming album. He is the supposed son of Howard Hughes (illegitimate of course) who brought us the Runaways and who has been a dirty old man around Hollywood since the late 60's and was involved in record production even prior to that. Anyway with this much diversity THE BOB seems pretty worthwhile.



TRENDSETTER (c/o Shaun, 4044 Huron Ave., Culver City, CA 90230. 50¢) -- A hardcore zine with lots of photos and interviews and scene reports. This is only the second issue but Shaun already has the material ready for #3 as well as working on a compilation album and TRENDSETTER T-shirts. A pretty decent zine -- if you're into hardcore it's well worth the money -- which only covers his postage anyhow.

KILLER (84 Eldridge St., New York, NY 10002. \$1/issue) -- The issue I got was pretty old, but Thurston says they're reprinting the others and hopefully there will be new issues. Thurston Moore is the editor, he is also in SONIC YOUTH, whose "Confusion Is Sex" album impressed everyone I know who's heard it. Unfortunately, I still haven't. This zine has a huge list of fanzines available --

plenty of reviews and pictures too -- but the centerpiece is some bizarre drawings with 1984-ish, SONIC YOUTH-ish captions like "IGNORANCE IS POWER", "PAIN IS USELESS", "MURDERER'S CONTROL", "CORRUPTION IS STRENGTH", "WIN OR LOSE" and winding up with "USE OR BE USED". This zine has other similar conceptual stuff written in script around the borders of the printed matter. Pretty interesting, get it.

PARANOIA (PO Box 20391, Reno, NV 89515. 50¢ but send more) -- This is put out by two highly desirable females. They were (are?) both in a band called THE WRECKS whose song "Punk is an attitude" made it on to the first MAXIMUM ROCK N ROLL compilation. Their zine manages to be serious, humorous and informative. It's serious because they talk to a lot of bands and ask serious questions. It's humorous because they also talk about light-hearted matters and they have a sarcastic way of handling things which is delightful. It's informative because these two girls travelled all over Europe last summer ('83) soaking up punk subculture everywhere and writing their observations. By the way, SKEENO is the generic name for the Reno, South Lake Tahoe and related areas scene. It's one of the least violent, most united in the country from what I've read.

SUBURBAN RELAPSE (Box 610906, N. Miami, FL 33261 \$1) -- I hear there should be a new issue out soon so now would be a good time to send a buck or two. This zine is mainly devoted to hardcore. It's got lots of long interviews and plenty of record reviews. Lots of pictures too. The editor says he plans to cover more than just hardcore and he writes in an interesting, up-front manner and is known for challenging some of the BS that the DEAD KENNEDYS have come up with. They are known for spouting off things like "No one should pay more than \$3 to see a gig" and then having tickets for their own show be \$7.50. Like I said, now is an especially good time to send for a copy of this one to see what El Boz has to say about late breaking developments.

VERBAL ASSAULT (824 Falkirk Ave. RR #2, Sidney, BC V8L 3S1 CANADA \$1) -- A hardcore zine from Canada. This issue was their second; it came out in March of '84. I bet they've had more since and would send you one if you sent money. They've got good interviews, good reviews, good pictures, with an emphasis on Canadian bands but plenty of other stuff reviewed. Big NECROS interview in this ish.

LEADING EDGE (2019 Chicago St., San Diego, CA 92110 \$1 & postage) -- Another new one out of San Diego that is going strong right now. All hardcore coverage by very cool people. In fact LEADING EDGE wants correspondence from everyone and they figure that others might too so they have a communication list on the back page of people to write to. You too could have your name and address on it! A good zine.

WE GOT POWER (3010 Santa Monica Blvd. #310, Santa Monica, CA 90404 \$1.50) -- A great LA zine. These people put out a 40 band compilation LP and beat FLIPSIDE to the punch. To follow up they were forced to get bands from all over the country to appear on theirs -- in doing so they did get some of the best from all over the country -- but WE GOT POWER got there first with 40 bands on one 12" record. Actually, some of these are from all over too. But back to the magazine -- good coverage -- lots of humor -- Kim, a chick, likes to interview guys and ask them how big their dick is, etc. Fun reading with good punk collage effects too. Worth the \$1.50; back issues are \$2.

BRAINSTORM (Box 242, Pomona, CA 91769. \$1) -- This is put out by the same people who run Toxic Shock Records. They form almost a punk commune -- not one full of political rhetoric like CRASS in England but one that is a great example of laissez-faire capitalism. These people have one of the best distributorships in the country. They are also pressing albums for others, forming their own groups, and now putting out this fanzine. Send them a buck for the zine or 50¢ to TOXIC SHOCK at the same address for a catalog. The zine has lots of interviews, also a comical presentation on prison which is like a satirical series of captions to various pictures but with the very real message that prisons are fucked, as well I know.

ZONE V PHOTOZINE (12801 Flack St., Wheaton, MD 20906. \$2.50) -- Almost all photos of DC acts and bands that have played DC. Some real good photos, including one of Exene looking quite sexy. Also some reviews and interviews, but lots of full page and half page photos.

THE DISGORGE (14820 Redmond Way #108, Redmond, WA 98052. 75¢) -- pretty political, or at least there's a page of propaganda by the Free the Five coalition. But since I know a lot of FACTSHEET readers are more interested in politics than punk this might be a good zine to check out. I think most of the contributors are chicks to boot.

RAD (PO Box 867, Morro Bay, CA 93442. 75¢ & postage) -- Full of xerox art, some reprinted material, cartoons and even phone numbers of the locals who would be happy to have their bands play S.F. or L.A. if someone would give them a call.

NOMAG (PO Box 57041, Los Angeles, CA 90057. \$7/2 issues or \$3 & postage for 1) -- L.A.'s answer to Andy Warhol's INTERVIEW?? Maybe -- but a lot more dangerous and the people appearing in it don't have near as much money even if they are trendy as hell. Actually this is one hell of a magazine because of the Dada art and a late-breaking interview with the hippest groups in Hollywood. A must, check it out!

60 MILES NORTH (c/o Roghart Productions, 6909-165 Ventura, CA 93003 2 stamps) -- A great little zine that covers all kinds of local music (north of L.A. by 60 miles, ha ha) and has humorous stories and various people expounding plus a mock-up advice column. Get this.

SUBCIN (PO Box 39382, Cincinnati, OH 45239. Send stamps) -- Local coverage of Cincinnati. Good variety, even a section on all the thrift stores nearby.

HIT THE TRAIL (3345 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, KY 40207. Send a stamp) -- A tiny zine. Worthwhile if for nothing else but its collectible size, but its got good worthwhile info and some humor too.

RED SHIFT (PO Box 513, De Kalb, IL 60115. \$1) -- This one has neat artwork by a friend of mine, but more than that it stands out from the pack because it is not about punk at all -- this was the zine for fans of Genesis, Gentle Giant and Pink Floyd before they all went commercial. Now there are other progressive stars who aren't afraid to call themselves Classical Rock and solo for 20 minutes. Red Shift tells you about them and about experimental and academic synthesizer music too. It rails against the major labels so that is one thing that puts it on the same side of the fence as the punks.

END TIMES (3870 Camelot Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. \$1.25) -- This zine is not afraid to be controversial. I'm not sure, but I think the editor, Craig, is some kind of Millenium freak who believes in the imminence of destruction and the immanence of God. I'm really not sure because he is too rational to let many clues slip, but he does confront many major issues like "Free the Five" and Animal Rights and takes viewpoints guaranteed to cause debates. He interviewed MAXIMUM ROCK N ROLL and wrote a pointed rebuttal to their "cover-up" of their leftist ideas. He has a cartoon about a punk going to hell, and he covers a lot of good music. Good zine.

WHAT'S NEW (11 Allen Rd. Brighton, MA 02135. \$1.50) -- Subtitled the Goodtimes magazine this is a relatively lame, college-oriented newspaper on music. You'll still learn more than you will reading ROLLING STONE.

BOSTON ROCK (Suite 203, 739 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116. \$2) -- Also geared for college music dilettantes it's not a half bad paper. It is one of the many with a feud with Coslog of CONFLICT. There is a lot of info on independent labels -- kind of like a BILLBOARD of the Indies but I wouldn't go that far.

JERSEY BEAT (418 Gregory Ave., Weehauken, NJ 07087. Stamps) -- Jim, the editor, likes garage bands, but he has an open mind to all good music and has published a couple of issues featuring the local hardcore. His is definitely the definitive zine on the Jersey scene and it's worth a couple of stamps.

All right, I'm probably leaving out a couple of new publications that I've gotten and read since last year. And if space permitted I'd run back over the best of the old batch like FLIPSIDE, SICK TEEN, FORCED EXPOSURE and zillions more. But instead I want to mention a few places that distribute music.

One place that definitely deserves mention is a source for just about any rock video you could ever want: from Presley movies of the 50's to Japanese only 90-minute live concert videos of all your faves. It's called

PLAYINGS HARD TO GET (376 S Oakland Ave., Box 50493, Pasadena, CA 91105). For 3 bucks you can get a glossy catalog with all the updates. And if you don't want to shell out the bucks just write them about what in particular you're looking for.

I've mentioned them once, but here goes again, for fast, reliable service buy through TOXIC SHOCK. They carry everything that a punk could want -- videos, records, cassettes, zines, buttons, leather goods, t-shirts, stickers and more. Only 50¢ for their catalog (Box 242, Pomona, CA 91769).

Other punk/post-punk/psychedelic distributors:

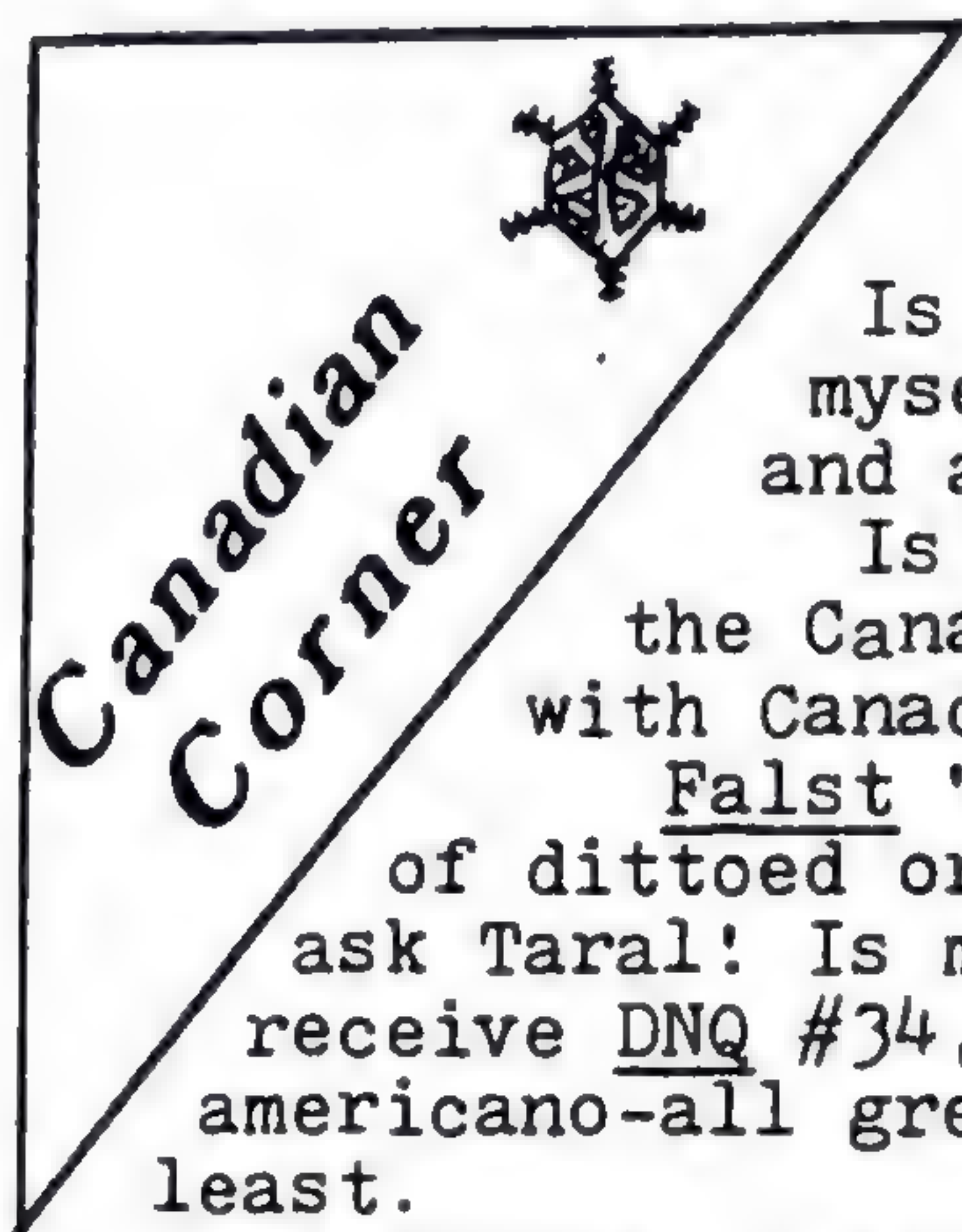
PARADOX MAIL ORDER/ENIGMA RECORDS (POB 2896, Torrance, CA 90509). Only a buck for a catalog of lots of records, their own and imports too.

MYSTIC RECORDS (6277 Selma, Hollywood, CA 90028) -- SASE for a catalog. Lots of new music, grungy punk and metal with compilation LPs on topics -- one called COPULATION with 18 anti-pig songs.

SST RECORDS (PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): SASE for catalog -- home of BLACK FLAG and PETTIBONE graphics and comix.

SYSTEMATIC RECORD DISTRIBUTION (1331 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94103) -- Free catalog, lots of punk and experimental records.

AND LISTEN TO NICK CAVE IF YOU CAN!!! CHECK THESE PLACES OUT!!!



Mike the Gunderloy sir,

Is interesting read to Factsheet Five the fanzine. Is information inside the head light up put? Yes! Also myself sometime the fanzine do the belly laugh inside, and away the depression make.

Is that Editorship would more "Canadian Corner"? Here the Canadian Speak. Next The World According To Garth make with Canadian issue, away the blandness. Only to ask myself! Falst "the typical SF fanzine is a near-illegible collection of dittoed or mimeoed pages"! Editorship reading was what?! Also ask Taral! Is many fine and legible fanzines SFnal. Myself yesterday receive DNQ #34, last Taral'zine of Toronto. Trans-Atlantic Norte-americano-all great articles, art throughout the best, Taral not least.

Fanfeuds, a secret Olympic event: Fannish Olympics at Yugoslavia worldcon (1988)?? To asking Anvil (Birmingham SF Club) the details. Is having failed the Gestetner field-stripping preliminaries, yours truly, but will busy try keeping ..

James Bond escape from Loony Bind! Correspond nt go underground. Will again surface, don't know where, don't know when...

venceremos,
Sarth Gencper, D.M.O.F.

((Aeditor's Note: Listen, Canucks, if I don't get some more stuff for this column before the next issue you can all go back to your Great White North and drown in the snow!))

RUMOR OF THE MONTH

Workers excavating the beds of San Francisco's cable car tracks have unearthed the remains of a lost civilization which flourished on the site of The City at an as yet undetermined date in the distant past. This mysterious people erected pyramids serving no apparent purpose, unless possibly to propitiate alien intruder and intergalactic bad neighbor Jehovah 1 who, competent students now agree, has been manipulating humanity's biology and history for kicks for countless millenia. These ancients worked the fertile trilobite banks off the Farallones, and -- being good head hunters -- practiced rubyfruit horticulture when not at war with their neighbors to the east, the primitive Yomamas who occupied the site of present-day Oakland. UC Berkeley archaeologists, smarting over their expulsion from Ethiopia by its Marxist government under pressure from the Rastafarian International, have shifted their attention to these earliest known San Franciscans, who, since they may have been contemporaneous with the so-called Mound Builders of the Midwest, have been called the Mound Munchers by Prof J. Desmond Clark.

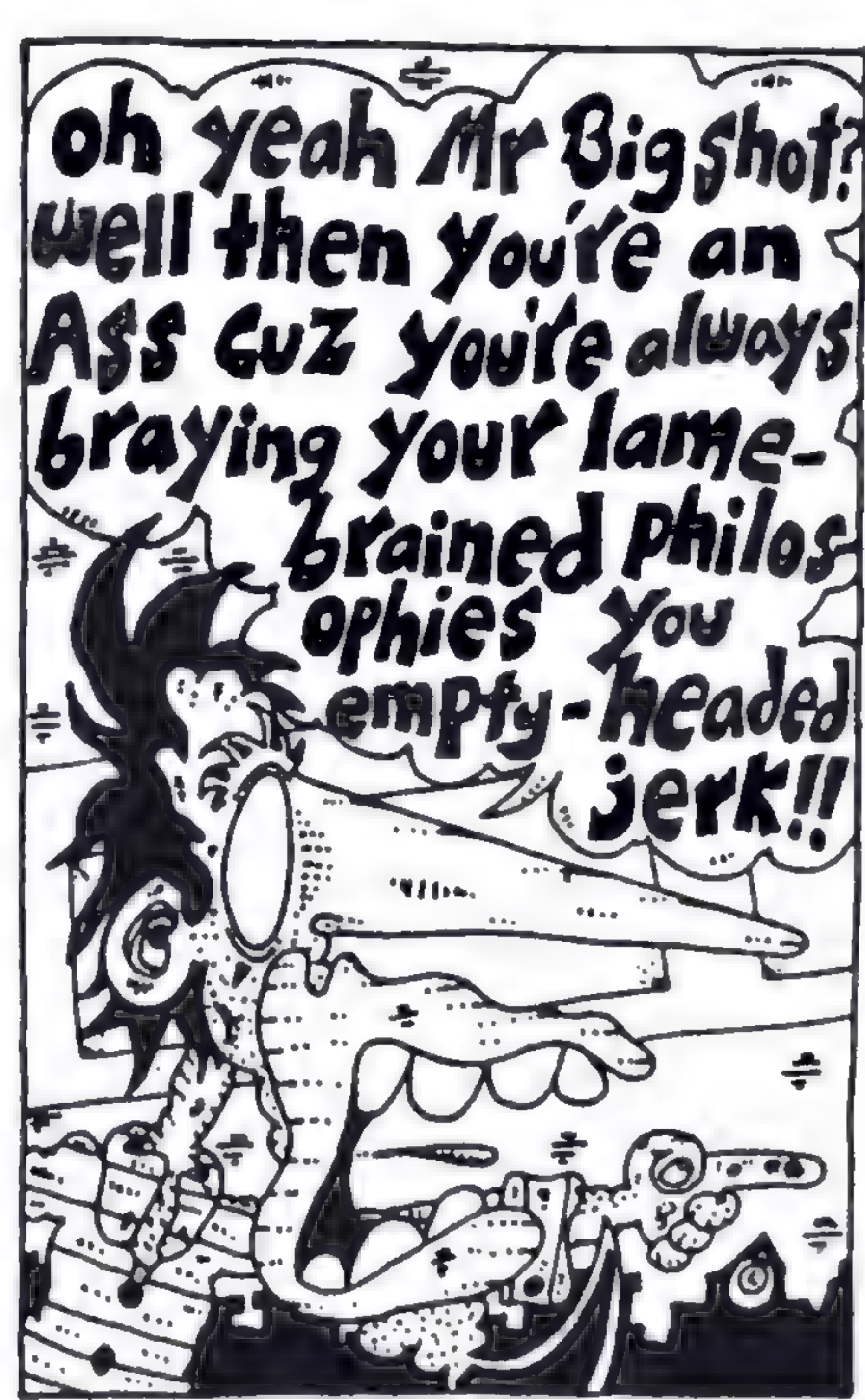
LOSING PLEASURES IN THE RAT RACE

by A.H. Fry

The crossroads are here and we are looking around and making choices. Many of us get sidetracked and can't even choose anymore. I visit friends and acquaintances and see how they lose their lives and dreams. They simply sit in front of the boob tube and let it slowly wear away their mental shields and self-determination. Many have never had much of a chance for escape. They were born in cities of emotional poverty and all scrunched together in 'cell block' homes. Schools soon taught them to follow authority and keep their original thoughts to themselves. Programmed in such an environment they were comfortable in controlled surroundings and only one in a hundred would probably even take the chance to break out and face a change. It's easy to spot the mental damage. Animals always enjoy themselves whether resting, eating or playing. The human species is seldom happy anymore. After a fourth of their life in school, the indoctrination usually erases even a smile. Denial systems run the planet. They ensure efficient work and value systems. If you don't fit into the popular systems you get shunned and punished. There is food and shelter on this planet for free, but manipulation and domination systems have made it unavailable. You must give allegiance to a government leader or system or starve. Millions starve because they have inefficient

leaders. Millions thrive in wealth because they can fit right into this denial or manipulation game.

Now that technology and transportation problems have been conquered the choice of paths is simple. Either we spread the natural wealth of the world around a little better or we continue in the same old denial paths and self-destruct. The civilizations of



Reagan will resist endorsing gays

DALLAS - President Ronald Reagan says his Administration will resist efforts to "obtain any government endorsement of homosexuals." Reagan made the comment in response to a questionnaire from the conservative publishers of the Presidential Biblical Scoreboard, a magazine-type compilation of past statements and voting records of national candidates. The Reagan statement was dated July 12 but released yesterday. Colonel Doner, copublisher of the scoreboard, said Reagan's statement of homosexuality is his first since taking office in 1981.

Read the last sentence carefully!



the past have all self-destructed. Their beginnings in idealism were corrupted and eventually their domination patterns corroded away their strong free-choice foundations. 90% of our Constitution is now gone. When I was a kid I used to visit the goat man. He was a hermit in the hills above our ranch, he was old and couldn't stand being cooped up. Today he would be carted off to a rest home, doped up and emotionally poisoned. I thought his ideas and lifestyle were great. Yet today the System has no room for self-determination. Fit in or be made to fit in. Freedom is sold for a promise of security. Any politician who promises more for less is quickly voted into office. Once in office they do the bidding of a monolithic banking cartel system that works towards one world domination. America is being sold out and few persons have enough inner determination to fight. The insidious trivia of the media lulls us into apathy and dulls our emotions beyond action. By 35 our citizens are burned out and shut off. They can't even remember what ~~free~~ pleasures are like anymore. They are held in the rat race by constant offerings of a 'carrot on a stick'. Ruining an expensive toy on a weekend is the best they can do for fun anymore. Having true emotions like an animal is considered a weakness.

Somewhere along the line I hope my neighbors on this planet wise up before it's too late. While I'm waiting, I'm going to live each day to the hilt. I'm going to ask if something is fun before I do it. And I'm not going to allot more than a third of my time to non-pleasurable pursuits. By an ethical balance and self-control of my one and only body, I intend to escape the servitude of society and enjoy as many of the wondrous pleasures here as I can.

A Case Against New Year's Resolutions

by Julie Summers

'Tis the season for people to talk enthusiastically about New Year's resolutions they're making. But have you ever heard anyone talking about the ones that they've kept?

Not too likely since New Year's resolutions suffer from the prison of perfectionism with such wording as "I resolve not (implying never) to do such-and-such again" or "I will (implying always) do such-and-such." Since no one can be perfect, one is soon left dejected amid the pieces of this year's broken resolutions, taking succor from envisioning success next year.

Grandiosity is a second mire. Resolutions of high ideals are merely mirages if they lack progressions, viz. baby steps that lead gradually to the larger goal.

Another fault of resolutions is that they rely on will power, which assumes one will do wrong unless one resolves otherwise. I feel I want to do right, and will do it, not by making resolutions, but by identifying attitudes, habits and environmental factors that help or hinder me, and cultivating the helpful while eliminating the hindering ones.

For example, I have overcome procrastination not with will power, but by realizing that what was holding me back was cherishing fantasies of glittering outcomes. This essay is a case in point: by accepting that it probably wouldn't be world shaking I was freed to go ahead and write it, instead of putting it off, dreaming of how wonderful it would be when I did write it.

I have made one New Year's resolution that I have kept: never to make any more New Year's resolutions. I still set goals, but I strive for less than perfection, include progressions, don't rely on will power, and don't wait for New Year's Day. For further ideas on setting and reaching goals I highly recommend GETTING THINGS DONE by Edwin C. Bliss (Bantam, 1976) and HOW TO GET CONTROL OF YOUR TIME AND YOUR LIFE, by Alan Lakein (Signet, 1973).

NOTES OF A NEON GRINGO

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

(Title inspired by a neon sign in a shop window in Little Five Points)

Incarnated as Eleanor Roosevelt, the Abraham Moslow Bodhi-sattva tells everyone to remain terribly awake.

The party of Lincoln is responding to his challenge: trying to fool all of the people all of the time.

Our hero struggles valiantly, caught in the tentacles of a squib.

Whoever first discovers an invention that will make people mind their own damned business will make a fortune -- especially if, whatever the gizmo is, it doesn't cost much. Until that happens, all our technology just makes life more intolerable for everyone.

There was once a lama who thought me a Buddhist teacher, so nobody -- no matter how mysterious -- is infallible.

Q.W.N.: "Never write a book telling people how to be happier with their lives. That's one thing the masses never forgive. The more effective your advice is, the more they will hate you. Just look at history, man -- from Jesus Christ to Albert Ellis it's always been the same that way." -- Nutman Bolton

In Eric Frank Russell's anarchist sci-fi classic, THE GREAT EXPLOSION, there is an expression among the Gands: "Myob!", M.Y.O.B. = Mind Your Own Business. In this society -- where there are arrogant people who try to tell others when or who to fuck, or whether or not to fuck at all, and when and whether to masturbate, what cafes to frequent and which to avoid, where postal and telephone clerks give their opinion in cant every chance they get, etc., it seems to me that everybody should be saying "Myob!" to everyone else all the time, or at least until this mass neurosis subsides.

I think this is caused because most people are trying to adjust to electronic communication technology instead of demanding that technology be attuned to human rights and needs. Our own technology could make us an extinct species. We evolved over many millions and billions of years to function as higher mammals, with certain needs -- including the territorial imperative, the need to control our own immediate non-absentee living and working space. Allowing Jesuits and Dixiecrats and British authoritarians, or whoever it is, to usurp that space, and trying to live with outrageous demands on your nervous system can make you quite UNSANE.

Anyone who sanctions their mad system by cooperating with it -- although that choice is in many cases also their own business and needs to be respected as such when that much is true -- most of the time is making sane behaviour harder for everyone. It is like shitting in the streets. Our whole psychological environment becomes unhygienic.

So, anyway, I give you "Myob!" courtesy of Eric Frank Russell.

I always ignore the rumored political results of my personal actions for the reason I just talked about: I don't wish to lend an oppressive system the "sanction of the victim". People who are worried about the political results of my personal choices -- who are affected by them -- should at least organize themselves enough to neutralize or counter them without dealing with me, because, for another thing, if they become dependent on my actions for their happiness they'll become addicts with no base for their own independence. That will enslave me and harm them at the same time.

**Who needs war,
hatred, greed and
envy? Life's too short
and too much fun.**



THE CHANCELLOR MANUSCRIPT, by Robert Ludlum (Bantam pb 1981): All the elements of the usual Ludlum: the secret conspiracy, the innocent who gets drawn into the center of it, the chocking revelations. Very well done portrayal of the struggle for J. Edgar Hoover's secret files after his (unnatural) death. Will probably be taken as fact by revisionists in another ten years.

ALL THE LIVELONG DAY, by Barbara Garson (Penguin pb 1978): A look into the world of the assembly-line and office worker. Despite the crap these folks take from management, Garson comes to the conclusion that they still want to work and do a good job. Frightening look at the things done to people in the name of efficiency.

TRAITOR TO THE LIVING, by Philip José Farmer (Ballantine pb 1973): A scientist proves the existence of the soul, talks to the dead, and learns how to take over living bodies. His megalomaniac plans are challenged by a few good guys. Confusing.

HOLLYWOOD WIVES, by Jackie Collins (Pocket pb 1983): A bunch of the beautiful people screw each other, literally and figuratively, as they attempt to make their way to the top. Buy a copy of PENTHOUSE and watch a few soap operas instead.

NO TREASON, by Lysander Spooner (Ralph Myles tpb 1980): A noted constitutional lawyer of the 19th century, Spooner attacked the Constitution on the grounds that it was an invalid contract. His arguments ring true to me, but I don't think they'll do any good.

THE HIDDEN DIMENSION, by Edward T. Hall (Doubleday hc 1966): An anthropologist examines man's use of space and the way in which space shapes our lives. Contains interesting classifications of the distances over which we interact, and some revealing notes on cultural differences.

DOOMSDAY WING, by George H. Smith (Monarch pb 1963): The US builds a 'Doomsday Machine' and threatens to use it unless the Russians lay off. The big strong Air Force dude saves the day.

THE WORLD INSIDE, by Robert Silverberg (Signet pb 1972): A good short story set in a future world with a population of 75 billion is turned into a mediocre novel by the addition of further vignettes. The concept didn't hold out for book-length. Besides, overpopulation isn't so trendy now as it was then.

THE STRANGER, by Albert Camus (Vintage pb 1954): A sociopath murders someone and gets tangled up in a lot of longwinded prose about man's inhumanity to man, or some such nonsense.

PROBLEMS OF SPACE AND TIME, edited by J.J.C. Smart (Collier pb 1979): A collection of essays on space and time by philosophers from Saint Augustine on to the present. Read this book and you'll be confused as hell when someone asks you when the next train is due. Time is funny stuff, and it's even funnier when these folks get through with it.

PRISONERS OF POWER, by Arkady and Boris Strugatsky (Collier pb 1978): A translation of a Russian SF novel, this one is pretty good. A scout from Earth gets involved in a revolution against the All-Powerful Creators on a distant planet. Reminiscent of the English SF of the late Thirties, this one is a roaring adventure yawn.

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD, edited by John Hick (Collier pb 1964): Another collection of essays, this one tries to treat all sides of the argument for and against God. In particular there is an excellent debate between Bertrand Russell and Father Copleston that it a model of clear talk being applied to a difficult problem.

MIRACLES, by C.S. Lewis (MacMillan pb 1978): Lewis discusses the existence of miracles from an orthodox Christian standpoint. I don't think he proves his case, but his arguments that physical science can't even hope to explain everything are extremely compelling.

THE ROLLING STONES, by Robert Heinlein (Ace pb 1953): An early example of Heinlein's tendency to make all of his characters invincible, this one is a juvenile about the adventures of the Stone family in interplanetary trading. Good clean fun.

FROM THOSE WONDERFUL FOLKS WHO GAVE YOU PEARL HARBOR, by Jerry Della Femina (Simon & Schuster hc 1970): This is a book about the advertising business written by someone who founded a new agency back in the days of the "We're #2, We Try Harder" type campaigns. Amusing, probably bears no relation to today's ad business. Antediluvian attitude towards drugs.

A HOLE IN SPACE, by Larry Niven (Del Rey pb 1974): Ten short stories by a master of the genre. I think "The Hole Man", about the destruction of Mars by accident, is the best of the lot.

THE MIKO, by Eric Van Lustbader (Villard tpb 1984): With this one you get just what you pay for: a sequel to THE NINJA, which exaggerates the already-ridiculous features of the previous novel: the Japanese words, the martial arts, the steamy sex and the convoluted plot. It will keep you interested only so long as you do not demand realism: (AAA ½ A)

THE PROBLEM OF PAIN, by C. S. Lewis (MacMillan pb 1962): Lewis tackles the age-old question "How can a benevolent God allow so much pain in the world?" His answer makes sense within his own explicitly Christian frame of reference, but I'm afraid that I did not find it emotionally convincing. Lewis' carefully-crafted prose is worth reading anyhow. (AAA)

AGAINST INFINITY, by Gregory Benford (Timescape hc 1983): Set in the far future during the terraforming of Ganymede, this novel focuses on the interactions between human settlers and an alien artifact of more power and grandeur than anything the human race has been able to manufacture. After the wonderful science in TIMESCAPE, I found this to be a bit of a disappointment, since it is more of a character novel rather than a hard SF one. (AAA)

A SAD SONG SINGING and DEADLINE, by Thomas B. Dewey (Carroll & Graf pb 1984): These are reprints of mystery stories from the early 1960s. Though the backgrounds are dated, the adventures of Mac, the Chicago detective that reviewers insist on comparing to Marlow and Spade, remain interesting. These are nice because they don't have the usual 'whodunit' formula plot; one is a "what was done?" and the other a "howdunit". (AAAA)

SCIENCE FICTION HANDBOOK, REVISED, by L. Sprague & Catherine deCamp (McGraw-Hill tpb 1977): This one won't make you an overnight success in SF writing but it will help you avoid the most common errors of the novice, and it offers suggestions on how to become successful with a lot of hard work. Much more useful than writing books composed by english teachers. (AAAA)

THE TERMINAL TRANSFER, by Trevor Martin (Avon pb 1984): A computer-crime adventure story by someone who knows nothing about computers. Not even plausible enough to be funny. (Ø)

THE 1984 ANNUAL WORLD'S BEST SF, ed. Donald A. Wollheim (Daw hc 1984): Wollheim has been picking the hits in the field for years, and he does consistently well. Greg Bear's Blood Music and Thomas Wyld's The Nanny are the highlights of this year's volume. (AAAAA)

THE SHADOW OF DEATH, by William X. Kienzle (Andrews & McMeel hc 1983): Kienzle writes entertaining mysteries about Father Robert Koesler, priest and journalist. Unfortunately, this one falls sort of flat since a lot of the plot depends on Rastafarians and he knows as much about Rastas as I do about High Mass. (AA ½ A)

THE MURDERED MAGICIANS, by Peter Partner (Oxford hc 1982): Partner traces the fall of the Knights Templar and the rise, three centuries later, of the myths surrounding them. The stuff on the fall is the same as what can be found in hundreds of sources, but his analysis of the modern science of myth-making is very well done. (AAAA)

THE TERROR, by Arthur Machen (WW Norton hc 1965): Machen wrote tales of the supernatural in the early part of this century, and this is one of his more obscure contributions to the art. Though the prose style is definitely archaic, the story itself is well-done, and the ending will surprise just about anyone who reads it. (AAAAA)

THE HOAX OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, by A.R. Butz (Historical Review Press hc 1975): Butz argues that the Nazis did not set out to exterminate the Jews during World War II, and that the Allied tribunals concocted the evidence. His interpretation of the facts seems reasonable in and of itself, but there are apparent holes in his discussion. In any case, he makes no arguments about the morality of the Nazis. (AA)

MECHASM, by John T. Sladek (Ace pb 1968): A self-replicating computer system gets lose in the world and takes over, with hilarious results. Sladek's wit is absurdist enough to really appeal to me, though some find him to be just silly.

RISE TO GLOBALISM, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Pelican pb 1980): A history of American foreign policy since WWII, this one gives an excellent picture of how we got into the current mess, where we could have done better, and where only luck kept us from doing worse. Does not inspire a whole lot of confidence in the way we do things.

THE HIGH PLACE, by James Branch Cabell (McBride hc 1923): Another installment of the Saga of Manuel of Poictesme, a fantasy series extending over dozens of books. This one concerns the adventures of a certain Florian, who grows up without the morality society imposes on most people, and so behaves in a most scandalous manner, particularly for 1923.

THE SHEEP LOOK UP, by John Brunner (Ballantine pb 1973): Loads of depressing writing on the decline and fall of the American ecology and its effects on the quality of life in the near future. Has a happy ending but you have to slog through a lot to get to it.

THE LAST HURRAH OF THE GOLDEN HORDE, by Norman Spinrad (Avon pb 1970): Short stories in a variety of styles, some experimental and some traditional. I love the title story, which is an adventure of Jerry Cornelius on the steppes of Asia.

THE 57th FRANZ KAFKA, by Rudy Rucker (Ace pb 1983): SF shorts, mostly with modern twists concerning either math or physics. Sometimes the plot device gets in the way of the story, but on the whole these are fun.

CITIZEN OF THE GALAXY, by Robert A. Heinlein (Ace pb 1957): Sort of Horatio Alger in the 23rd Century, this chronicles the adventures of a young slave who does well for himself while doing well for the whole galaxy.

CRYPTOZOIC!, by Brian W. Aldiss (Avon pb 1967): The big secret is that time actually runs in the opposite direction than we think. Now you don't have to read the damned thing.

THE TESLA BEQUEST, by Lewis Perdue (Pinnacle pb 1984): A bunch of corporations and governments battle over the secret weapon plans in the papers of Nikola Tesla. Perdue seems to be growing into a sort of second-string Ludlum, but he's got a way to go yet.

A short PEACE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please keep your replies to 1-10 pages foolscap unless you have a whole libertarian peace programme to offer in manuscript for non-exclusive microfilming.

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- #4 A DEFENDANT: that thing sacrificed before the bench.
- #5 THE APPEAL PROCESS: the technique developed by lawyers to transfer wealth from your pocket to theirs.
- #6 DEFINITION OF A CRIME IN PROGRESS: a judge conducting court.
- #7 PERJURY: What a judge does when he places his hand upon the Bible and takes his Oath of Office.
- #8 A BAILIFF: an accessory to a crime.
- #9 THE SUPREME COURT: a body of men trained to make rules for practicing extortion.
- #10 CONTEMPT OF COURT: the device used by judges to fill the jails when nothing else works.
- #11 HABEAS CORPUS: the key to the jail house door (before conviction) if you can find a judge willing to sign it.
- #12 LAW: that thing passed by legislatures that makes criminals out of honest people.
- #13 A TRAFFIC TICKET: something more certain than death or taxes.
- #14 A WARRANT: that piece of paper that legalizes crimes committed by government.
- #15 A PANEL OF EXPERTS: a device used to convince a jury when the victims' flesh is too tough to be picked clean by a single judge.
- #16 A LAWYER'S CONVENTION: the cover used by the National Association of Pickpockets so they can meet publicly.

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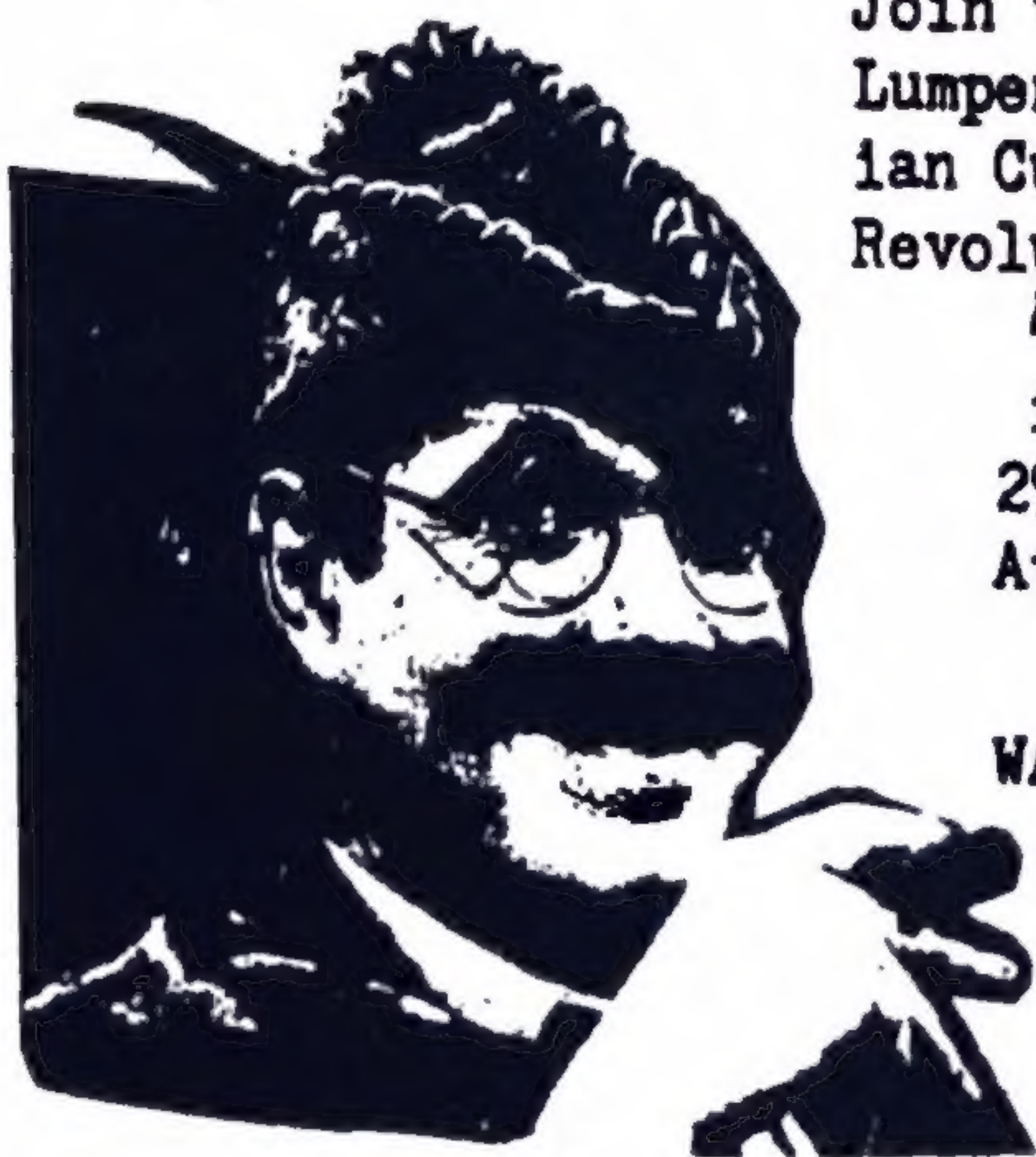


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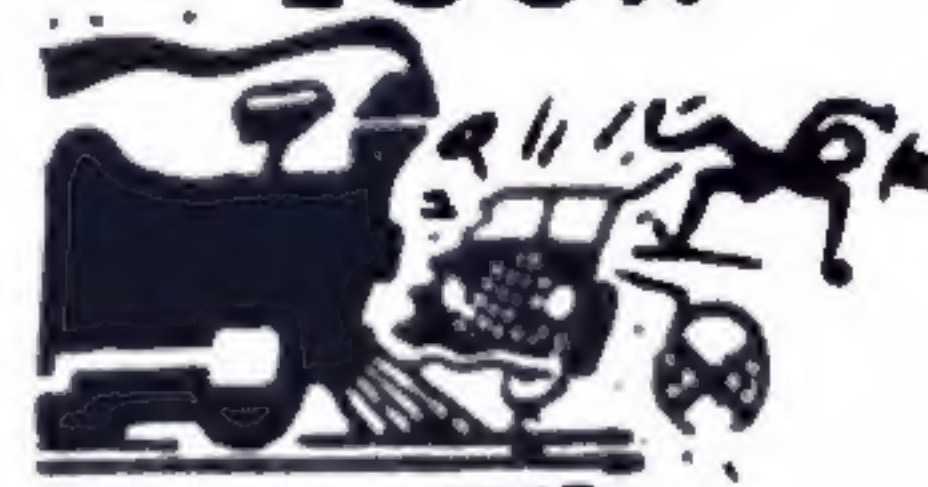


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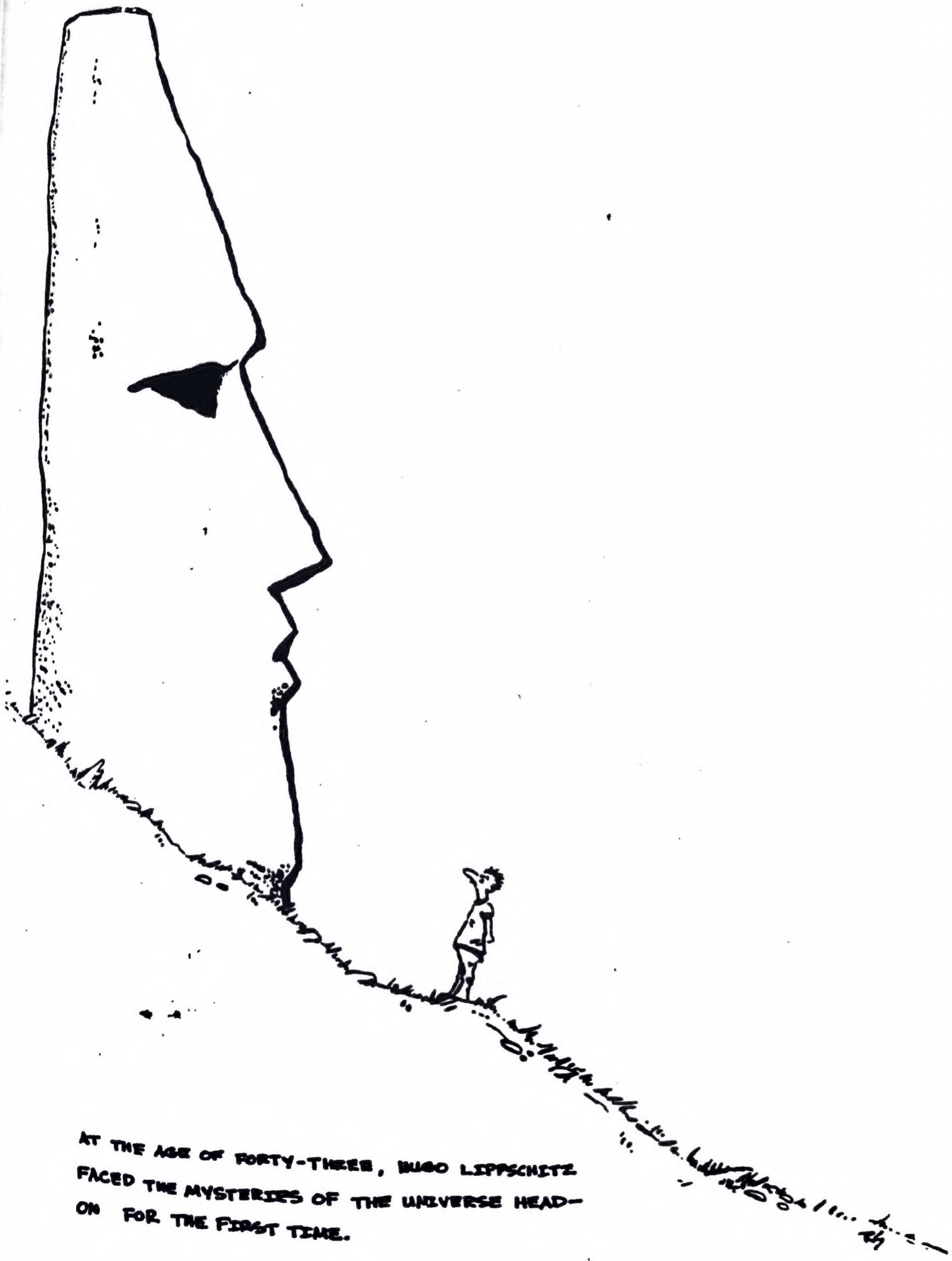
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